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SERIALS 110-120

SECTION 4

44-HQ-28441-4M

SECTION 4
SERIALS 110-120

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, MOBILE (SELMA) (44-1233)

SUBJECT: R. B. KELLY, aka;
ET AL;
JAMES J. REEB (deceased)
ET AL - VICTIMS
ASSAULT AT SELMA, ALABAMA
MARCH 9, 1965

DATE: 4/9/65

Refer to Bureau tels and Mobile tel of 4/9/65, concerning preparation of summary memo in captioned matter suitable for dissemination outside Bureau.

A copy of this memo is enclosed for completion of Bureau files. The photographs selected for dissemination with this report were previously furnished to the Bureau. Fourteen pictures pertain to the scene at the Silver Moon Cafe and two pictures are color photographs of victims CLARK BIRD OLSEN and ORLOFF W. MILLER. Since Bureau already has these pictures, additional copies are not being furnished at this time.

ENC. I
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(3)

ENCLOSURE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

Mobile, Alabama
April 9, 1965

R. B. KELLY
Also Known As
R. B. Kelley;
ELMER L. COOK;
WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE;
NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE;
JAMES J. REEB (deceased) - VICTIM;
ORLOFF W. MILLER - VICTIM;
CLARK BIRD OLSEN - VICTIM
ASSAULT AT SELMA, ALABAMA
MARCH 9, 1965

Information set forth herein reflects the results of investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning the assault on James J. Reeb, Orloff W. Miller, and Clark Bird Olsen, at Selma, Alabama, on March 9, 1965.

Photographs taken in the vicinity of the Silver Moon Cafe, the scene of the assault, and photographs of victims Miller and Olsen are also enclosed as attachments to this memorandum.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Enclosures 16

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ENCLOSURE

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ACTIVITIES OF VICTIMS PRIOR TO
ASSAULT ON MARCH 9, 1965

SECTION I

LR 44-1233

DETAILS:

AT SELMA, ALABAMA

This investigation is predicated upon information furnished by J. WILSON BAKER, Director of Public Safety, City of Selma, Alabama, to SA EDWARD H. BAHLOW, JR., at 8:00 PM on March 9, 1965, that three white ministers reportedly had been assaulted by unidentified persons near Walker's Cafe on Washington Street, Selma, Alabama. BAKER informed that he was attempting to obtain further details.

SA ROBERT L. FRYE telephonically contacted Capt. FRANK LA PORTE, Identification Officer, Selma Police Department, who advised that he had a police car in the vicinity of Walker's Cafe checking for details of the reported assault and endeavoring to identify the subjects of the investigation. He furnished the names of JAMES REEB, CLARK OLSEN and ORLOFF MILLER as the individuals reportedly assaulted and informed that they had been taken to Burwell Hospital at Selma, Alabama. These individuals were subsequently identified more fully as:

Rev. JAMES J. REEB, 3 Half Moon Street, Boston, Massachusetts, of the American Friends Service Committee, Boston, Mass.

Rev. CLARK BIRD OLSEN, 427 Yale Avenue, Berkeley 8, California, minister-coordinator for Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarians.

Rev. ORLOFF W. MILLER, 4 Hemlock Road, Hingham, Massachusetts, Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

O 44-1233

B

GORDON'S
CAFE +
ROOMING
HOUSE

TURNER
MOTOR CO.
USED CAR
LOT

HOUSE

CHURCH

GENERAL
TIRE STORE
+
SERV. STA.

SELMA AVE.

250 FT.

TO BROWN'S
CHAPEL
3 BLKS. EAST
1 BLK NORTH

CITY PAWN
SHOP

C + C
NOVELTY

SELMA
BARGAIN HSE.

COFFEE POT
CAFE

BLACK + WHITE
CAB CO.

PARKING
LOT

SILVER MOON
CAFE

BARNES
MUSIC

THOMPSON
BUS. MACH.

JERRY'S
THRIFT SHOP

SMALL LOAN
OFFICE

COLE'S GROC.

O'BRIEN
PLUMB-
ING

ROUND
TREE ELEC.

MARCELLAS
BEAUTY SHOP

SELMA MOTOR
CO. USED CAR
LOT

400 FT.

SELMA
STEAM
LAUNDRY

SELMA
MARBLE
+ GRANITE
CO.

FIRST NAT'L
MORTGAGE
SHANNON
PLACE

EAGLE
STORE

WASHINGTON ST.

ALLEY

WALKER'S
CAFE

AMER. SHOE
SHOP

POOL HALL

LITTON CLAY
CAFE

M + F STORE

WHITEWAY
CLEANERS

PARKING
LOT

SELMA SUPPLY CO
+ BAIL BONDS

FRANKLIN ST.

ALABAMA AVE.



NOTE: NOT DRAWN
TO SCALE

MILLER'S
FUNERAL HOME

ROUTE PRIOR TO
ASSAULT - BLUE
ROUTE AFTER
ASSAULT - RED

BOYNTON
INS. AGENCY

ALLEY

CITY BLDG.
+
POLICE
STATION

FIRE
STATION

BB

Date 3/14/651

Reverend JOHN M. WELLS, Unitarian Minister, 1275 Fort Hart Road, Alexandria, Virginia, was interviewed at the rear of Brown's Chapel, Selma, Alabama. He advised that he had dinner at Walker's Cafe on Washington, Street, on the evening of March 9, 1965. He advised he was accompanied by Reverend DAVID COLE and Reverend GERALD CRICK. Reverend WELLS further informed that Reverend ORLOFF MILLER, Reverend CLARK OLSEN, and Reverend JAMES REEB who are associated with the American Friendly Community Church were also having dinner at the same restaurant. He said he and his two companions left the restaurant shortly before 7 p.m. He said that they turned left as they left the restaurant and walked back to Brown's Chapel. He advised he did not observe any suspicious individuals in the area while they were leaving.

On 3/9/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SA JOHN J. SWEENEY:gmh Date dictated 3/13/65

Date 3/14/651

Reverend DAVID COLE, 1024 Brice Road, Rockwell, Maryland, advised he is associated with the American Friendly Community Church. He advised that on the evening of March 9, 1965, he had dinner at Walker's Cafe on Washington Street, accompanied by Reverend JOHN WELLS and Reverend GERALD CRICK. He also informed that three other ministers from the American Friendly Community Church, ORLOFF MILLER, CLARK OLSEN, and JAMES REEB, were having dinner at the restaurant when they left at approximately 7 p.m. He advised that they turned left after walking out of Walker's Cafe and walked back to Brown's Chapel on Sylvan Street in Selma without incident.

He advised that he did not observe any groups of white people congregating in the area nor did he observe anyone acting in a suspicious manner. He said he had heard a few moments before that Reverends REEB, OLSEN and MILLER had been attacked by some unknown white males as they left the restaurant and were being taken to Birmingham, Alabama, for hospitalization.

On 3/9/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SA JOHN J. SWEENEY:gmh Date dictated 3/13/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/65

1

Mr. JOE OLIVER, 907 Green Street, advised that he is also known as Darby, and is a janitor at Keefe High School, Orrville, a community near Selma, Alabama. He stated that he lost his left eye through an injury when he was a child and his right eye has a cataract.

OLIVER recalled that on the evening of March 9, 1965, between 7:30 - 8:00 p.m., he walked from Listonclay Cafe on Washington Street to the Silver Moon Cafe on Washington Street at Selma Avenue on the east side of Washington Street. He said that as he passed Walker's Cafe about half way to the Silver Moon Cafe, he saw no one standing on the sidewalk in front of Walker's Cafe, but he did notice a young white man sitting on the window ledge alone and possibly other white men were coming out of the restaurant. He said he did not stop but said hello to this man and proceeded on down toward the Silver Moon Cafe. As he passed the front door of the Silver Moon Cafe, two white men in overalls, who were complete strangers, came out of the front door and tried to block his passage, while one of the white men said he was going to "beat the hell out of him." He said he told this man he didn't want any trouble, and he continued walking around the corner on Selma Avenue toward the entrance of the Negro section of the Silver Moon Cafe. He said at this point the white man said, "God damn it nigger, halt, I'm going to whip you up." He said he went on into the Negro section of the Silver Moon Cafe, but the white men did not follow him in and two or three minutes later when he came out onto the sidewalk the two white men were gone.

OLIVER identified the photograph of ELMER COOK as a man who operates a business across the street from the Silver Moon Cafe, but he could not identify photographs of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE or R. B. KELLY. He stated, however, he was certain that the two men who stopped him were not identical with the four individuals named above and does not believe he could identify the two men if he should see them again.

On 3/18/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD BUCARO: mfm Date dictated 3/19/65
RICHARD A. HARPOCK

MO 44-1233

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OLIVER stated that when he left the Silver Moon Cafe he went to his residence, staying about one hour and then returned to the Silver Moon Cafe to leave a message for his wife with one of the Negro employees there and estimated that he arrived approximately 9:00 p.m. He stated that he did not see anyone that he can recall by name during his walk from the Listonclay cafe to the Silver Moon Cafe.

OLIVER stated that his wife works at the Coffee Pot Cafe for "Mr. BEN" who also runs the pawn shop at the corner. He said he did not see Mr. BEN that evening and does not recall seeing COOK or anyone else he knows.

OLIVER was shown photographs of Reverend ORLOFF MILLER and Reverend CLARK OLSEN, and he selected the photograph of Reverend MILLER as the young white man he spoke to who was sitting on the window ledge outside of Walker's Cafe.

OLIVER stated that he did not witness any assault around the Silver Moon Cafe and has no information regarding any persons assaulted or any persons who committed an assault, and it was only later that evening when he learned through various unrecalled individuals that there had been some sort of commotion on Washington Street that evening.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 18, 1965

Mr. EDDIE R. FERGUSON, Sr., 1213 Philpot Street, telephone 874-7302, advised that he is the operator of Walker's Cafe, 118 Washington Street, telephone number 874-9120 and that he is sometimes known as EDDIE WALKER.

He stated that during the evening of March 9, 1965, he was working in the kitchen due to the large volume of business in the restaurant. He stated that his extra business was caused by the visiting demonstrators who had come to Selma and on that particular evening more than half of his customers were white. He stated that he did not meet any of the visitors and had no contact with them whatsoever and could not identify the three ministers who allegedly had eaten dinner in his restaurant that evening prior to their being assaulted.

He stated that the waitresses working that evening were HATTIE PEOPLE and HELEN BURDEN, one of whom probably waited on the table where the ministers were served.

He stated that the first he knew that any assault had taken place was after 8 p.m. when two police officers came to his restaurant and asked him if he knew anything about an assault and of course he told them that he did not know anything and was not even able to verify that the ministers had been in his restaurant prior to the assault. He said that no one has told him that they observed the assault and he has talked to no one who had admitted that they were even on the street during the time of the assault and was unable to identify any Negro male, who was reported to be near the cafe when the ministers came out, who might have an injured eye. Mr. FERGUSON stated that he may possibly be able to locate some witnesses to the assault or at least persons who were on the street at that time and will advise at a later date.

Mr. FERGUSON stated that he has operated Walker's Cafe at that address continuously since 1941, and his customers have always been the better class of Negro people. He stated that he had never served any white patrons in the restaurant prior to the enactment of the Civil Rights Act on July 2, 1964, because it was against a city ordinance to do so. He began serving white persons in the restaurant around August, 1964, all of whom were strangers traveling through Selma.

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD A. HARDOCK and
RICHARD BUCARO/kzh Date dictated 3/18/65

Around that time the police officers who would see a white person come into the restaurant would talk with them and the white person would leave without ordering. He did not know whether or not these white persons were placed under arrest.

Sometime during August, 1964, the local police apparently realized that it was not a violation of the law for him to serve a white person in his restaurant due to the civil rights act and they stopped keeping white persons out of the restaurant. Between August and December, 1964, a few white patrons were served in the restaurant, possibly 3-5 per week but since about Christmas, 1964, the white trade has picked up and recently during the last two months the visit of numerous civil rights demonstrators to Selma, Alabama, has brought in sometimes as many as 25-30 white customers in a day, all of whom were served.

Mr. FERGUSON said he considers his business to be a Negro restaurant as do the local white people in the immediate area and that none of the local white people ever come into his restaurant to eat.

He stated that he could not identify the photographs of the four subjects in this case as people he knows except that he believes COOK has a business on Washington Street across from Walker's Cafe diagonally.

He stated that on the corner of Selma and Washington Streets, approximately one-half block away from the Silver Moon Cafe, a white cafe, as well as the Blue Bird Cafe, also a white cafe, are located. Diagonally across the street from Walker's Cafe is the Coffe Pot Cafe, also a white place and directly across the street from Walker's Cafe is located the Shannon Cafe which is a colored cafe. At the other end of the 100 block of Washington Street near Alabama Avenue is a Negro cafe called Listonclay.

Mr. FERGUSON stated that he had heard that some colored people in the past, date unrecalled, had attempted to be served at the Silver Moon Cafe, but were refused service.

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MO 44-1233

Mr. FERGUSON stated that he believes that the leaders of the current racial movement at Selma had been referring white people who are *also interested in the movement who have come to Selma, to his restaurant* and that is the cause of the sudden increase of white trade. He stated that he does not know if the three ministers who were assaulted had been in his restaurant prior to March 9, 1965, as he does not know them.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 23, 19651

Mr. EDDIE R. FERGUSON, Sr. was recontacted at the Selma Resident Agency of the FBI, at which time he stated that during his normal contacts with Negroes in the area of Washington and Selma Avenues, in an attempt to obtain information as to possible witnesses to the assault of Rev. REEB, he contacted an individual that worked in the Negro section of the Silver Moon Cafe, DAVID (LNU). DAVID gave FERGUSON the distinct impression that he was aware that a fight had taken place outside the cafe on March 9, 1965, and that he knew more of the incident than he let on. FERGUSON stated that he did not press DAVID for more information not wanting to arouse the suspicions of DAVID.

FERGUSON cautioned that in his opinion DAVID was mentally deficient and easily excitable in addition to the fact that he has a distinct fear of white people. In view of the fear, FERGUSON suggested that DAVID be contacted by one FBI Agent rather than two.

He advised he will continue to attempt to learn of witnesses to the assault.

On 3/22/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/23/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/65

1

Mrs. HELEN BURTON, 713 Lawrence Street, advised that she has been employed at Walker's Cafe on Washington Street as a waitress for the past 3 years.

Mrs. BURTON stated that she was called to work extra during the evening of March 9, 1965, because of the extra business caused by numerous customers coming to the restaurant who are visiting Selma for the civil rights demonstrations. She said she arrived approximately 6:30 p.m. and worked until 9:00 p.m. She said only Negroes were eating at the counter and with the exception of one booth where Negroes were eating, the rest of the tables and booths were occupied by white people, some of whom were ministers. She stated that she cannot recall serving three ministers at one table and could not identify the photographs of Reverend ORLOFF MILLER and Reverend CLARK OLSEN as anyone she served.

Mrs. BURTON said that she did notice a young white man standing on the sidewalk outside the restaurant next to the alley, who was a complete stranger, and does not believe she could identify him if she saw him again. She said he may have had on a light blue shirt or sweater and light colored jeans, had a "Beatle-type" haircut and was about 20 years old. She said she did not see where he went to and could not place the time he was there.

Mrs. BURTON stated that HATTIE PEEPLES was the other waitress and that HENRY WATTS, a waiter, also worked that night but only handled one table where some older ministers were eating. She stated that it was most likely that HATTIE PEEPLES waited on the three ministers whom she heard were assaulted after leaving the restaurant.

Mrs. BURTON advised that the only Negro man she knows who has an injured eye is DOYLE, who works part time at Listonclay Cafe down the street.

Mrs. BURTON stated that she has no information

On 3/18/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD BUCARO: mfm Date dictated 3/19/65

RICHARD A. HARDOCK

whatever regarding the assault of the ministers and did not even know there had been an assault until Lieutenant KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department came to the cafe and talked to all the employees about what they may have seen. She said she told Lieutenant KNIGHT then about the young boy she had seen outside. She said there were no white people left in Walker's Cafe by the time the police came and she believed all had gone to Brown's Chapel.

Mrs. BURTON said the next day or so McARTHUR BROWN, a Negro boy who works at the Coca Cola Bottling Plant in Selma, told her he had seen pictures in the paper of the men who were arrested for the assault and identified ELMER COOK as a man who had gone to Walker's Cafe and looked into the window the night of the assault.

Mrs. BURTON recalled also that after the assault some of the white people who had been in Walker's Cafe that evening earlier returned to the cafe to inquire as to what had happened to the three ministers but were unable to learn anything as far as she knew. She said she has heard no one say that they had seen the assault occur or who had done it.

Mrs. BURTON identified the photographs of ELMER COOK as a man she has known all her life and who runs the C & C Novelty Company on Washington Street across from Walker's Cafe, where her father used to buy clothing and other articles. She could not identify the photographs of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY and has never seen them around the area that she could recall. She said she does not recall seeing COOK around the area the evening of the assault.

Mrs. BURTON stated that there have been a lot of white people, mostly strangers, coming to Walker's Cafe since the Negroes are urging those persons interested in the racial movement to boycott the white restaurants and stores in Selma, Alabama, and this has caused a great increase in business at Walker's Cafe, which she believes prevented her from recalling anything whatever regarding the three white ministers.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/65

1

Mrs. HATTIE BEATRICE PEEPLES, Route 1, Box 65, Zones, Alabama, furnished the following information:

Mrs. PEEPLES advised that she has worked as a waitress at Walker's Cafe for the past 2 years. She recalls that she was working during the evening of March 9, 1965 and worked until approximately 7:30 or 7:40 p.m. This is vivid in her mind because she was supposed to get off work at 4:00 p.m., but due to excess amount of business resulting from civil rights demonstrations in Selma, Alabama, she had to work late.

During the afternoon and evening of March 9, 1965, she recalls an especially large number of white individuals patronizing the cafe; it was her opinion that these individuals were clergymen visiting Selma for participation in the racial demonstrations. During most of the evening better than half of the individuals in the cafe were white. The white people ate at the various tables and booths in the restaurant, while the colored people generally sat at the counter.

Mrs. PEEPLES recalled waiting on a table occupied by three white men, but was unable to identify photographs of Reverend ORLOFF MILLER and Reverend CLARK OLSEN as being among the individuals at that table. She could not identify photographs of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, R. B. KELLY or ELMER L. COOK, explaining that she has lived in the country approximately 9 miles from Selma all of her life, that she still lives there and commutes daily to Selma, thus having very little contact with either colored or white individuals in Selma.

Mrs. PEEPLES stated that she knows a young colored man by the name of McARTHUR BROWN who works at the Coca Cola Bottling Plant in Selma. She recalls having seen BROWN during the lunch hour on March 9, 1965, but cannot recall having seen him during the evening of March 9, 1965.

On 3/18/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD A. HARDOCK: mfm Date dictated 3/19/65

RICHARD BUCARO

MO 44-1233

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Upon getting off work she left Selma in a South Wind taxi cab which took her home. Just prior to leaving the cafe that night there were still customers eating but the number had dwindled considerably. She does not think that there were any white individuals in the cafe at this time due to the resumption of racial demonstration activity at Brown's Chapel.

Mrs. PEEPLES could furnish no further information in regard to this matter.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/651

Mr. HENRY WATTS, home address 1113 Jeff Davis Avenue, Selma, Alabama, employee, Walker's Cafe, Washington Street, Selma, furnished the following information:

WATTS recalls working at Walker's Cafe on March 9, 1965 from 6:00 a.m. until noon and then returning at 4:00 p.m. and working until 9:30 p.m. WATTS worked mainly behind the service counter at the cafe in addition to washing dishes just before closing time.

The majority of the people eating at the cafe during the period 4:00 - 9:30 p.m. were white individuals who he assumes were civil rights workers. The cafe was unusually busy during this time.

WATTS could not identify photographs of Reverend ORLOFF MILLER and Reverend CLARK OLSEN, stating that he spent most of his time behind the counter except for occasional instances when he would give the waitresses a hand and take an order from some of the people sitting at the tables. He did not notice anyone looking through the windows of the cafe due to his being especially busy.

WATTS could not identify photographs of R. B. KELLY, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE or ELMER L. COOK, stating that he had never seen these individuals before. WATTS advised that he did not see any assault involving three white ministers or anyone else nor has he heard of any individual talking as if they saw such an incident. He initially heard of the assault when a police officer came into the cafe at approximately 8:00 p.m. and began asking questions about such an assault.

WATTS could furnish no further information in regard to this matter.

On 3/19/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD A. HARDOCK: mfm Date dictated 3/20/65
RICHARD BUCARO

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/20/65

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Mr. GENERAL MACK ARTHUR BROWN, 1100 Broad Street, Room 16, advised that he is age 20, has a tenth grade education and is employed in the Coca Cola Bottling Company Plant, Selma, Alabama.

BROWN said on the evening of March 9, 1965, at about 7:00 p.m., he was walking south on Washington Street from the direction of the Silver Moon Cafe, enroute to Walker's Cafe to eat dinner. He said as he approached the south side of the alley at the sidewalk in front of Walker's Cafe, an older white man passed him by, heading in the same direction, and this white man nodded to him and greeted him. BROWN said he went directly into Walker's Cafe, sat at the counter and almost immediately looked back toward the front window of Walker's Cafe, and the same white man who had passed him was looking into the front window of Walker's Cafe as though he was looking for someone in particular.

BROWN identified a photograph of WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE as the man described above who looked into Walker's Cafe and stated that he believes this man on the initial approach to Walker's Cafe had come from across the street from the vicinity of the C & C Novelty Company and possibly returned to that side of the street after looking into the window.

BROWN stated that he has bought shirts on credit from Mr. COOK, who operates the C & C Novelty Company, and knows him personally.

BROWN stated that while was in Walker's Cafe, he noticed there were a lot of white people eating there and after he sat there for approximately 5 minutes after entering Walker's Cafe, he decided not to eat there because he did not have sufficient money to buy what he wanted. He stated that just before he left Walker's Cafe, three white men, who had been eating in Walker's Cafe departed just ahead of him, turned right at the sidewalk and proceeded in the direction of the Silver Moon Cafe right ahead of BROWN. He estimated

On 3/19/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD BUCARO: mfm Date dictated 3/20/65

RICHARD A. HARDOCK

that he was approximately 60 - 80 feet behind these three white men and as they walked north on the east side of Washington Street he noticed that across the street standing in front of the Coffee Pot Cafe were two or three white women and several white men who were yelling or calling to the three white men. He said one remark he recalled was "Come over here and let's see how smart you are." He stated that while the people were yelling at the white men, he definitely saw ELMER COOK standing in the doorway of the C & C Novelty Company looking across the street.

BROWN stated that the three white men continued walking and upon approaching Selma Avenue where the Silver Moon Cafe is located, they turned right and proceeded east on Selma Avenue. BROWN said he continued north on Washington Street, crossing Selma Avenue, and noticed that the three white men had proceeded as far down Selma Avenue to at least the alleyway which runs south behind the Silver Moon Cafe. He said he continued walking north on Washington, went on home and emphatically denied that he had seen any assault of any white men or any other persons at Selma Avenue and Washington Streets that evening. He stated that the only explanation he can think of is that possibly the three white men were not the same as the three white men who were assaulted.

BROWN stated that it was not until the next day that he learned that three ministers had been beaten the night before, and he is almost positive that the three white men he followed from Walker's Cafe up Washington Street continued on the Brown Chapel without being molested in any way.

BROWN said that the next day he saw photographs in the newspaper of some men who were arrested in connection with the assault and recognized the photograph of WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE as the same man he had seen the night before looking into the window at Walker's Cafe.

BROWN was unable to recognize photographs of R. B. KELLY or NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE as anyone he ever saw and could not identify photographs of Reverend ORLOFF MILLER and Reverend CLARK OLSEN as being identical with two of the three men whom he saw departing Walker's Cafe.

MO 44-1233

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BROWN stated that he cannot recall seeing anyone he knows on Washington Street or at the corner of Washington and Selma that evening and does not know the names of any possible witnesses to the assault on the three ministers. However, he stated that he will give this matter further thought and may possibly learn something or recall some information which may be of value.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 23, 19651

Mr. GENERAL MACK ARTHUR BROWN was recontacted at the Selma, Alabama Resident Agency of the FBI regarding anything he could recall pertaining to the assault of the three ministers during the evening of March 9, 1965.

BROWN said he has not been able to recall or learn any more information than he previously furnished except that one JOSEPH SMITH, a co-employee of his at the Coca Cola Bottling Company in Selma, frequents the Silver Moon Cafe regularly and most of the time walks home with him as they live near each other. On the evening of March 9, 1965, he recalled that SMITH worked late and came home sometime after he did. He believes SMITH may have walked past the Silver Moon Cafe at some time after he did.

He stated that he does not recall seeing any medical van or truckload of people parked near the Liston-Clay Cafe on Washington Street on which some white men beat on. He said he did not notice any of the people who may have been in the vicinity of Walker's Cafe and could not identify any people standing in front of the Coffee Pot Cafe. He recalled vaguely that there may have been a white man coming out of the Silver Moon Cafe as he walked by but could not say who he was.

On 3/22/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/23/65

MO 44-1233

STATEMENTS OF VICTIMS REVEREND OLSEN AND
REVEREND MILLER REGARDING ASSAULT AND
MEDICAL ATTENTION RECEIVED

SECTION II

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 10, 1965

The following signed statement was furnished by
Rev. CLARK BIRD OLSEN:

"Birmingham, Alabama
March 10, 1965

"I, Rev. Clark Bird Olsen, reside at 427 Yale Avenue, Berkeley 8, California, and make the following free and voluntary statement to Richard F. Collier and Robert S. Mugavin, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been informed that any information I furnish could be used in a court of law.

"I was born June 23, 1933. I am employed as a Minister-Coordinator for the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarians.

"I arrived in Montgomery, Alabama by air, during the afternoon of March 9, 1965. At the air terminal, I encountered a group of members of the press, who were seeking transportation to Selma, Alabama. A young man approached the group I was with and identified himself as affiliated with the SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference) and stated that he was available to transport ministers for the conference from Montgomery to Selma. I obtained my transportation to Selma from this young man and arrived there at approximately 4:30 P.M.

"I came to Selma as an individual and once at Selma, I joined other Unitarian ministers who were already there.

"Upon arrival in Selma, I went to the vicinity of the Brown AME Chapel, where a rally was in progress.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232

by SA RICHARD F. COLLIER and
SA ROBERT S. MUGAVIN: ela Date dictated 3/10/65

I got out of the car, leaving my luggage and personal belongings in care of the driver, and proceeded to watch the rally and listen to several of the speakers, including the Rev. Martin Luther King. At the conclusion of the rally, I met a group of Unitarian ministers who were gathered together to formulate plans for their stay in Selma. Among those ministers in the group were the Rev. Orloff Miller, from Boston, Massachusetts, who is the Executive Secretary of the Student Religious Liberals, and the Rev. James Reeb, also from Boston, a Unitarian Minister connected with the American Friends Service Committee.

After a brief discussion, about eight or nine of this group went to Walker's Restaurant, also known as Eddie's Place, which is basically a Negro restaurant, but does serve on an integrated basis. Miller, Reeb and I sat at one table and ate supper from approximately 5:30 to 7:30 P.M.

"After finishing supper, the three of us came out of the restaurant and paused momentarily on the sidewalk. I noticed an unkempt white man come to the vicinity of the restaurant and peer inside, presumably 'counting the house.' I would describe this man as being about 40 years of age, 5 feet 6 inches tall, slight build, and he gave the appearance of being a native to the area. He was wearing a jacket, probably a golfing jacket, and brown tweed-like trousers. If shown a photograph of this individual, I possibly could recognize him.

"The three of us, after observing this individual, turned to our right toward the first intersection from the restaurant. As we approached the intersection, which was approximately one-half block from the restaurant, I noticed four or five white men crossing the street from our left. As they approached, they began to taunt us, calling out, 'Hey, niggers.' At this time the Rev. Reeb was on the outer edge of the sidewalk, Rev. Miller was in the center and I was on the inside. Rev. Reeb was slightly to the rear of Rev. Miller and me.

BP 44-1237

"We chose to ignore their remarks and attempted to continue on our way. The group of men ran at us and one swung a club, approximately one and one-half to two inches thick and about three to four feet long, striking Rev. Reeb on the side of the head with a hard blow. Rev. Reeb immediately collapsed to the sidewalk on his back.

"One of the group came after me and flailed at me; however, I did not suffer any injuries other than being shaken up. When I looked back, other members of this group were kicking Rev. Miller and Rev. Reeb, both of whom had been knocked to the sidewalk.

"This group of four to five white men then dispersed for some unknown reason and headed in the direction from which they had come. I saw no one else at the intersection during this incident; however, I have the impression that possibly there were more men in the area from which our assailants had come.

"After the assailants left, Miller and I assisted the Rev. Reeb to his feet. We leaned against the building wall, where we stood for a moment recovering from the attack which had been made upon us. Rev. Miller and I put our arms about Rev. Reeb and we proceeded around the corner of the intersection to our right to the next intersection, where we again turned to the right and continued down that block to what I believe is a Negro insurance office, which is operated by a woman active in Negro affairs in Selma. This office had been pointed out to us earlier by Rev. Miller as a sort of headquarters for the integration movement.

"To the best of my recollection, one of the attackers was wearing a light tan poplin golf jacket and another had on a bright plaid shirt. The only weapon evident to me was the stick with which Rev. Reeb was struck.

"From the insurance office, the three of us were taken to a Negro clinic in an ambulance which was furnished by a Negro funeral director. I believe the name of the clinic was Burman Clinic, or something similar. We arrived at the clinic at approximately 8:15 P.M.

BH 44-1232

"Upon arrival at the clinic, Rev. Reeb was taken into the hospital by the drivers of the ambulance and received treatment from hospital personnel. We remained at the clinic for approximately one hour. While at the clinic, we were interviewed by the Selma Police Department.

"Rev. Miller and I returned to the insurance office in a car driven by Dr. Dinkin, the doctor who had treated Rev. Reeb. At the clinic arrangements were made to admit Rev. Reeb to the University Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama, and the required \$150 admission fee was obtained at the insurance office through a check made out by SCLC. Rev. Reeb was placed in an ambulance from the funeral parlor and Rev. Miller and I also entered the ambulance and we proceeded to leave Selma for Birmingham. A police car, I believe from the Selma Police, followed us for a few blocks through the center of town.

"About two or three miles out of town, the ambulance developed a flat tire and we turned around and returned to a radio station, located alongside the highway, where a telephone call was made to Selma for another ambulance.

"En route to the radio station, we were followed by a green Nash Rambler or Metropolitan, which was occupied by one person. Upon arrival at the radio station, the occupant of this car asked several questions of our driver. I do not know what this conversation consisted of.

"At this point, another car, which the ambulance driver told me was a 1963 Chevrolet, pulled up and one of the four occupants asked some questions. The Chevrolet pulled away, but came back in a few minutes, arriving at approximately the same time as the police department and the replacement ambulance, and in the confusion I was unable to ascertain what questions were asked. However, I believe I was asked who was in the ambulance and replied, 'A friend'; whereupon the person questioning me called out, 'Hey, Green, they're friends'. This was said in a sneering manner. By Green, I presume he was calling to one of the unidentified bystanders.

"At this point we got into the replacement ambulance and proceeded to Birmingham without further incident.

BH 44-1232

"With the exception of the white man I mentioned above, who came to the restaurant as we were leaving it, I am unable to furnish a detailed description of the men who assailed us or of the men who were seen at the radio station during the time we were waiting the arrival of the replacement ambulance. I do not believe that I could recognize any of these men from a photograph.

"I have read the above statement, consisting of this and six other pages, and it is true and correct to the best of my recollection. I have initialed each change and correction. I have initialed each page of this statement.

"/s/ CLARK BIRD OLSEN

"Witnessed:

"/s/ RICHARD F. COLLINS,
Special Agent, FBI, Birmingham.

"/s/ ROBERT S. MUGAVIN,
Special Agent, FBI, Birmingham."

*** The following physical description of CLARK BIRD OLSEN was obtained through observation and questioning:

Name:	CLARK BIRD OLSEN
Residence:	427 Yale Avenue, Berkeley 8, California
Occupation:	Minister - Coordinator for the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarians
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	5'8"
Weight:	135-140 pounds
Build:	Slender
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
Complexion:	Medium
Date of Birth:	June 23, 1922
Place of Birth:	Boston, Massachusetts
Scars and Marks:	None visible
Peccarities:	Wears glasses

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/10/65

The Rev. CLARK BIRD OLSEN was observed by Special Agents RICHARD F. COLLIER and ROBERT S. MCGAVIN and no cuts bruises or abrasions were noted on his person. This examination was conducted at the conclusion of the interview with Rev. OLSEN in an office located in the Emergency Clinic Building, University of Alabama Medical Center, Birmingham, Alabama, at approximately 1:25 A.M.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232

by SA RICHARD F. COLLIER & SA ROBERT S. MCGAVIN/rvm - la Date dictated 3/10/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 10, 1965

Reverend CLARKE OLSEN voluntarily consented to have his photograph taken. Two black and white photographs of the front view were taken, one with lens opening of F22 and shutter speed of 100, and the other with lens opening of F32, shutter speed of 100. Two color photographs of the front view, with lens opening and shutter speeds the same as in the black and white photographs, were taken.

Reverend OLSEN stated that he was examined by doctors at the University Hospital, and did not have any wounds or marks.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BM 44-1232
by SA MONTE E. HANLEY and
SA RALPH N. BUTLER:ela - la Date dictated 3/10/65

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 13, 1965

Reverend CLARK B. OLSEN, residing 427 Yale Avenue, Berkeley 8, California, telephone 527-0953, was interviewed at the University of Alabama Hospital, Administrative Offices, and advised he was willing to travel to Selma, Alabama, for the purpose of observing a line-up of persons including several men possibly identical with those persons responsible for the attack upon Reverend JAMES J. REEB, Reverend ORLOFF MILLER, and himself, although he admitted being fearful for his own personal safety and that of Rev. MILLER. He stated at present he was somewhat reluctant to travel to this city for the purpose of viewing this line-up, because having lost his eyeglasses in this attack, on March 9, 1965, he was unable to see clearly and doubted that he could make an identification without them. He stated an ophthalmologist at the University Hospital was in the process of making lenses for his temporary use, although he did not expect the lenses to be ready until about noon on March 11, 1965.

He stated he preferred to withhold his final decision regarding his return to Selma until the following day.

Rev. OLSEN stated his immediate plans were uncertain, although within a day or two he expected to return to his residence and resume responsibilities as Coordinator of the Berkeley Fellowship within his church.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232
MO 44-1233
by SA JAMES ROYCE PECK:ela Date dictated 3/13/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 13, 1965

Reverend CLARK B. OLSEN telephonically advised the Birmingham Office that he expected to depart from Birmingham for his residence sometime on the present date. He stated he had considered there might be some possibility that the assailant who attacked Reverend JAMES J. REEB at Selma, Alabama, on March 9, 1965, might have been left-handed, particularly in view of the crushing blow which had been delivered with tremendous force to the left side of Rev. REEB's brain. Rev. OLSEN also stated he had recalled a fact not previously set forth by himself in a signed statement furnished on March 10, 1965. He stated he recalled one of the vehicles surveilling the ambulance transporting Rev. REEB and others when this ambulance was parked at the radio station near Selma, Alabama, already referred to in this signed statement, bore the insignia of the Playboy Club.

On 3/13/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232
MO 44-1233
 by SA JAMES ROYCE PECK:ela Date dictated 3/13/65

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

3/23/65

Date _____

On March 22, 1965, SAs RICHARD A. MC INTOSH and DONALD E. JONES interviewed Reverend CLARK BIRD OLSEN at his residence, 427 Yale Avenue, Berkeley, California.

At this time Reverend OLSEN was shown a display of photographs of 22 individuals, from which he selected photographs of R. B. KELLY, ELMER L. COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE as persons who, in his opinion, closely resembled the men who had attacked him, Reverend ORLOFF MILLER, and Reverend JAMES REEB in Selma, Alabama, on March 9, 1965. OLSEN identified the photograph of WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE as the man who had attacked him personally on March 9, 1965.

A signed statement was obtained from Reverend OLSEN at this time, regarding his identifications, and it is set forth verbatim below:

"March 22, 1965
Berkeley, California

"I, Clark Bird Olsen, voluntarily furnish the following statement to Richard A. McIntosh and Donald E. Jones, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"On the evening of March 9th, 1965, I, along with other Unitarian ministers from throughout the country, was in Selma, Alabama, to aid the Negro voter registration drive. Three of these ministers, Rev. Orloff Miller, Rev. James Reeb and I, ate dinner together in Walker's Restaurant. Following dinner, at approximately 7:30 P.M., we left the restaurant together, and walked toward the intersection which was at our right as we left the restaurant. As we approached the intersection ~~four or five white men came toward us and attacked us.~~

On 3/22/65 at Berkeley, California File # SF 44-600
by SAs RICHARD A. MC INTOSH and 3/23/65
DONALD E. JONES:mhb Date dictated _____

SF 44-600

RAM:mhb

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"On March 10, 1965, I furnished a detailed statement to Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Birmingham, Alabama concerning the above attack and all related activity at Selma.

"On March 22, 1965 Agents McIntosh and Jones displayed approximately twenty photographs of approximately twenty individuals. Out of this display of photographs I selected photographs of four different individuals who in my opinion closely resemble the men who attacked myself, Rev. Orloff Miller and Rev. James Reeb. I identified one of the men in the photographs selected as the one who I believe attacked me. These four men were the only ones I recognized in any way of the approximately twenty men represented in the photographs.

"In the event that my testimony in court becomes necessary, I would be willing to travel to Alabama or elsewhere to testify.

"I have read the above statement consisting of this and one other page and it is true and correct.

"/s/ Clark Bird Olsen

"Witnessed at Berkeley, California by:

"/s/ Donald E. Jones, Special Agent, F.B.I.

"Witnessed at Berkeley, California by:

"/s/ Richard A. McIntosh, Special Agent, F.B.I."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 11, 1965

ORLOFF W. MILLER, 4 Hemlock Road, Hingham, Massachusetts, furnished the following signed statement:

**"Birmingham, Alabama
March 10, 1965**

"I, **ORLOFF W. MILLER**, hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to **SA JAMES ROYCE PECK** and **SA THOMAS G. MANSFIELD** who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been advised that information being furnished by me could be used in a court of law.

"My name is **Rev. ORLOFF W. MILLER** and I reside at 4 Hemlock Road in Hingham, Massachusetts. As a Minister of Unitarian Universalist Association with headquarters at 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts, I hold the position as Director of College Centers program. I arrived at Selma, Alabama, on March 9, 1965, by automobile from the Montgomery, Alabama, Airport, having reached that location aboard Eastern Airlines. My purpose in visiting Selma, Alabama, was two-fold: first, to offer assistance in strengthening the efforts by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in securing voter registration rights for Negro citizens and second, to provide a living witness of my convictions as a Minister of the Unitarian Universalist denomination. I understand from a spokesman at the University Hospital, Birmingham, Alabama, that **Rev. JAMES J. REEB** is in critical condition from a severe blow received on the left side of his head. I have known this Minister for more than a three-year period and I participated with him in a march on March 9, 1965, at Selma, Alabama, which was led by **The Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING**.

"Some hours after the conclusion of this parade, I was in the company of **Rev. REEB**, as well as **Rev. CLARKE OLSEN**, and after speaking with an elderly Negro gentleman concerning the location of a suitable eating establishment,

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232

by SA THOMAS G. MANSFIELD and
SA JAMES ROYCE PECK : ela Date dictated 3/10/65

BH 44-1232

we selected a Negro eating place by the name of Eddie's Restaurant, also known as Walker's Cafe. As we entered this establishment, I became aware that some associates of mine were already seated inside this cafe, possibly by reason of the location of this restaurant within a one block distance from the office of SCLC. One such associate was Dr. HOMER JACK, Director of the Department of Social Responsibility of the UUA, and these others: GERALD KRICK, director of Liberal Religious Students of Boston; DAVID COLE, Minister of this denomination near Washington, D.C.; and RICHARD NASH, Minister of the First Universalist Church at Chicago, Illinois. Service was slow in this cafe and during a period of delay, I telephoned my wife and I recall leaving this restaurant approximately 7:00 p.m., and standing outside waiting for my two associates to meet me. I believe during the short period I stood outside, Rev. REEB made a phone call, possibly a long-distance one.

I have some recollection of a Negro male at this time who walked near me and who attracted my attention because of his injured eye. From the cafe we turned right and approached the corner; I also recall wondering if we were going in the right direction.

"About this time, I was aware that to the left and nearly parallel to us, four or five white males were moving between parked cars and crossing the street in our general direction. At least one of these persons hollered out 'Hey, you Niggers', and these or similar words were repeated. The three of us seemed to quicken our pace to the corner and when we reached that location, the men were immediately behind us.

"Rev. REEB occupied a position nearest to the street and I was first aware that he was struck apparently at the left side of his head in a resounding blow. It occurs to me now that the sound of the blow suggested he had been struck with a heavy object, believed to be wooden, as a result of which he was knocked to the ground. As he fell, he was lying on his back, and was either struck or kicked and this occurred either while I was in the process of placing myself in a prone position or while I was lying in such a position. I remember hearing some of the men

speaking something to the effect 'Now you know what it feels like to be a Nigger'. Possibly my movement to the prone position was instinctive, although I did that day receive instruction concerning how to crouch when attacked by someone. Also, I recall in the prone position seeing flying feet so I know that kicking occurred.

"I am not able to furnish specific, descriptive data concerning these attackers, although one individual appears to be singled out in my mind, as I believe his facial characteristics may be known to me. My impressions are based upon only fragments of awareness, although I am aware this individual had a stocky build, stood 5'9" or 5'10", and wore a sport shirt as well as possibly a tan zipper jacket. His hair was brown and straight, not curly. I am uncertain whether Rev. OLSEN was struck to the ground. I believe some or all of us tried to cry out and I may have shouted for help and possibly my associates shouted as in agony.

"After the passing of possibly 30 seconds when we were beaten by these attackers, they suddenly left and I recall being both surprised and relieved at their quick departure. Somehow, I staggered to my feet and recall assisting Rev. REEB, who, with the added assistance of Rev. OLSEN, was able to walk with considerable difficulty. All of us felt that we should leave this location as soon as possible because the attackers might return and because medical help was needed.

"Immediately, I was aware that Rev. REEB was incoherent. He appeared to be experiencing great pain and his speech was in the nature of short remarks or ejaculations. During this period as we walked to the office of SCLC, he held a small amount of conversation and seemed aware of his own need for medical attention.

"As we were nearing the SCLC, I was also aware that a vehicle, possibly a late 1955 to 1960 Plymouth, dark in color, carrying white males in front and rear seats, passed by and something was shouted at us from this car.

BH 44-1232

"Inside the SCLC Office, Mrs. DIANE BEVEL, wife of JAMES BEVEL, assisted us and made calls to locate an ambulance. She was unable to obtain an ambulance immediately so I offered to walk down several doors on the same street we had traveled, having observed ambulances parked in this location. I believe the name of the company was the Miller Ambulance Service, and eventually, Rev. REEB was moved by stretcher into one of their ambulances. The time interval at this point from the time of the attack was possibly 15 minutes.

"The route the ambulance followed on the way to the Burwell Infirmary at Selma, Alabama, was past the area where the attack had taken place. I recall Rev. OLSEN remarking that he wished to stop and search for his eye glasses which apparently had fallen during the attack. There appeared to be several persons in this area and a determination was made that the ambulance continue without stopping. Mention is made of this circumstance because as the ambulance slowed in speed at the location of the attack, I observed an individual described as a white male, age 50 to 60, 5'10" to 11", having thin hair, standing at this location. On seeing this individual at this time, I was suddenly reminded that earlier, just before the attack, I had observed this individual walking toward our general direction as we came from the restaurant.

"After a time, we arrived at the infirmary mentioned and Rev. REEB was carried inside this clinic. At this point, he was incoherent, and I recall observing that his condition must have deteriorated somewhat. Nurses took necessary action to serve this patient and a call was made for a physician. After a short time, this doctor arrived and, from an examination of the pupils of Rev. REEB's eyes, informed us that this patient should immediately be placed in the hands of a neurosurgeon. Shortly before this an initial examination, according to this doctor, had not indicated an abnormality in Rev. REEB's pupils.

"During this time, a nurse at this infirmary asked if a police report had been filed and since it had not,

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two policemen of the Selma Police Department were called to the hospital. I remember a senior officer, age approximately 50, was named ELLISON, and that a junior officer, in his 30's, had a scar on his right cheek. I also recall that Rev. OLSEN asked if an escort would be provided and remember his being told that none would be provided.

"Following the filing of the police report, Rev. REEB was again placed in an ambulance and this time, we accompanied the Negro physician who drove in his car to the SCLC Office, this time to obtain a check for \$150.00, because as he and I understood, this would be a requirement before Rev. REEB could be admitted at University Hospital.

"Finally, we were able to leave Selma, Alabama, approximately 8:45 p.m., and had traveled outside of the city limits on the highway leading to Birmingham when a tire of the vehicle became flat. The driver of the ambulance turned the vehicle about and returned in the direction of Selma, traveling about three miles with the tire flat. We reached a small radio station where the driver located a telephone and arranged for a replacement ambulance to arrive.

"Around this time, I observed that a turquoise Rambler Metropolitan, carrying a white male in his late 20's, followed closely behind us. This person honked his horn which appeared to be acknowledged from a service station or possibly a store across the highway. As we parked in front of this radio station, the Metropolitan vehicle departed and returned a number of times, apparently checking upon our circumstances. A number of other vehicles, possibly curiosity seekers, stopped in the area while we were parked at that location. After a time, the replacement ambulance arrived from Selma, Alabama, followed by a vehicle of the Selma Police Department and Rev. REEB was transferred from one ambulance to the other. *John South*

"During the period that followed, we three remained in the replacement ambulance and the vehicle of the Selma Police Department departed. A determination was then made that an escort vehicle was needed before we should travel to Birmingham, Alabama. I recall the Negro physician sent for his personal automobile to be brought so that it could

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act as our escort. A time lapse of at least 15 minutes occurred while we waited for the escort vehicle. During this lapse of time, a vehicle carrying officers of the Dallas County, Sheriff's Office arrived and at least four deputies surrounded the ambulance, flashed their lights about, demanded to know the circumstances of our presence and generally conveyed the impression of hostility to the point that Rev. OLSEN, as well as myself, considered their actions in the form of intimidation. Information was furnished briefly concerning our circumstances and from comments made by the Deputies, I felt that they were apparently aware of the attack which previously had been reported to the Selma Police Department. Quite frankly, we were all fearful of this Sheriff's Office and believed that we could expect the worst from the deputies. Even so we requested an escort from the Sheriff's Office and was told that none would be furnished.

"After these Deputies departed and the escort vehicle had arrived, we traveled to Birmingham, Alabama, receiving assistance possibly from an Alabama State Trooper for a few miles just before we entered the interstate highway. Approximately 11:00 p.m., we arrived at the University Hospital where Rev. REEB, as well as myself, received medical assistance.

"I am unable to say whether or not I would be able to recognize any of the assailants if ever I should confront them again.

"I have read the above nine page statement and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"/s/ ORLOFF W. MILLER
ORLOFF W. MILLER

"Witnesses: "/s/ JAMES ROYCE PECK, Special Agent, FBI,
Birmingham, Ala., 3/10/65.

"/s/ THOMAS G. MANSFIELD, Special Agent, FBI,
Birmingham, Ala., 3/10/65."

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The following background information and descriptive data was obtained through observation and interview:

Name:	ORLOFF W. MILLER
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Date of Birth:	August 8, 1931
Place of Birth:	Boston, Massachusetts
Height:	5'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight:	165 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Hazel
Marital Status:	Married
Children:	Two minor children
Wife:	MARY JANE
Education:	Received Bachelor of Sacred Theology Degree, Boston University, 1956 (ordained as minister, 1954)
Position:	Minister
Employment:	Director of College Centers program of Unitarian Universalist Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 10, 1965

Observation of the person of Reverend ORLOFF W. MILLER, 4 Hemlock Road, Hingham, Massachusetts, at the University Hospital, Administrative Offices, revealed a discolored and swollen area at the right forehead, circular in shape, approximately 2" in diameter. Also a marking, an abrasion or cut was observed extending as a line downward from the scalp for about 2½" to a point midway between this person's eyebrows. Also a somewhat reddened area was observed at the base of his scalp, near the neck, slightly to the right of center of the neck. A reddened marking or abrasion on the outer left forearm, between the wrist and elbow, was observed, in irregular shape, about 1 3/4" in diameter.

No additional injuries or markings were apparent on this person.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232
by SA THOMAS G. MANSFIELD and
SA JAMES ROYCE PECK:ela Date dictated 3/10/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 13, 1965

Reverend ORLOFF W. MILLER, residing 4 Hemlock Road, Hingham, Massachusetts, telephone RI 9-9656, was interviewed in the Administrative Offices of the University of Alabama Hospital, and advised as follows:

He stated he was agreeable to traveling to Selma, Alabama, in order to observe a line-up of persons including several men who may have been responsible for the injuries sustained by Reverend JAMES J. REEB, as well as the beating received by himself in that city, on March 9, 1965. He explained because of his experiences there, he was fearful of returning, although he was willing to do so in order that the interests of the Federal Government might be served in this matter. He added that those persons responsible for the attack should be made to answer for their actions. He preferred to withhold his final decision regarding his return to Selma until the following day.

He stated since being previously interviewed during the early morning of March 10, 1965, his head has caused him some pain in the region of his right forehead, and he has taken aspirin for the pain. He stated a radiologist of the University Hospital had taken an x-ray of his skull approximately 15 minutes before this interview. He stated he had not been advised of the x-ray results as of the present.

Rev. MILLER stated he expected to return to his Boston residence on March 11, 1965, although plans were indefinite at this time.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232
MO 44-1233
by SA JAMES ROYCE PECK:ela Date dictated 3/13/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/24/65

On March 22, 1965 Rev. ORLOFF W. MILLER was interviewed, at which time he furnished information which was reduced to the form of a typewritten statement.

This signed statement was made available to Rev. MILLER on March 23, 1965, at which time he read the statement, acknowledged it to be true and correct and affixed his signature thereto. This statement reads as follows:

"March 22, 1965
Boston, Massachusetts

"I, Rev. Orloff W. Miller, make the following statement to Bernard T. McCabe and Arthur F. Hodgins who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I live at 4 Hemlock Road, Hingham, Massachusetts.

"I arrived in Selma, Alabama at approximately 9:00 a.m. on March 9, 1965. I had traveled by plane to the Montgomery Airport and then traveled by car to Selma. I recall that in this auto with me was Henry Hampton, a staff member of the Unitarian Universalist Association; Mrs. Kenneth Russ of the First Unitarian Church, Evanston, Illinois, and Mr. Robert Hohler, Executive Director of Laymen's League (Unitarian-Universalist). The automobile transportation was furnished by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). On arriving in Selma we went directly to Brown Chapel where a huge crowd had gathered. We were told by someone to go to the Baptist Church on Sylvan Street which we did, again traveling by auto, where we unloaded our luggage and placed it in the church.

"Inasmuch as there was a rally in progress at the Brown Chapel, I walked back to that area. This was one of four rallies that I attended that day, all of which were more or less connected and the four rallies that I attended could be regarded as four sessions. Some of these rallies were inside Brown Chapel and some outside.

On 3/22 & 23/65 at Boston, Mass. File # BS 44-432

by SA BERNARD T. MCCABE and
SA ARTHUR F. HODGINS/gm Date dictated 3/24/65

2.

BS 44-432

"At either the first or second rally that I attended I heard John Lewis and James Foreman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. Also, at one of these rallies, we were given some advice by some of the local people as how best to defend ourselves. These people that talked to us were local people who had been through these beatings and tear gassing.

"At lunch time I joined two other ministers and we ate in a cafeteria across the street from the large downtown hotel in Selma. The two other ministers with me were The Rev. Ford Lewis of the First Unitarian Society, Sacramento, California, and the Rev. Jack Taylor, Unitarian-Universalist Church, 309 West Green Street, Urbana, Illinois. Our lunch at this restaurant was without incident.

"We left this restaurant at approximately 1:00 p.m. and instead of going directly back to Brown Chapel we took a circuitous route so that we could see the Dallas County Courthouse. We did not see the courthouse but noticed that the parking lot of the First Methodist Church contained a great many cars belonging to State Troopers. We eventually returned to Brown Chapel and again rallies were going on both inside and outside the church. I recalled hearing James Foreman and John Lewis speak and The Rev. Martin Luther King also spoke at approximately 3:00 p.m. At that time we all left Brown Chapel and went out into the street and lined up to begin our march to Montgomery. The march eventually got under way and we proceeded toward the bridge crossing the Alabama River and crossed over this bridge to the other side. The route was lined on both sides by Troopers, Deputy Sheriffs and some other law enforcement officers. When we got to the other side there was a confrontation and some discussion was had at the head of the column, following which the marchers turned around and began to return to Selma. We marched to Brown Chapel and there was another rally going on outside. The Rev. Martin Luther King was addressing the crowd and explained why we had turned back.

BS 44-432

"As the afternoon was growing late an inquiry was made of an SCLC member, whose identity was not known to me, about a restaurant in which would be a good place to eat our evening meal. He suggested that we go to the SCLC office across from the City Hall and I understand that this was in Reymont's Insurance Company. The group had gone on ahead of me as I had to make a telephone call. Then I eventually caught up with the group a couple of blocks before we reached the SCLC office. To the best of my recollection, Clark B. Olsen was in this group and I rather think that The Rev. James J. Reeb was also in the group. We inquired of an elderly gentleman in the SCLC for an eating place. This man did not know us and asked if we wished to eat in a place 'of your own kind'. I told him 'not necessarily' and he thereupon said that 'Eddie's place' is a good place to go. At this point someone from the back of the room shouted that this place would have a sign on it identifying it as Walker's. I would say that when we arrived at Walker's it was about 6:00 p.m. We walked to Walker's and it was very crowded and we had some difficulty getting waited on. I would say that we were in the restaurant for about an hour and a half.

"Rev. James J. Reeb and Rev. Clark Bird Olsen dined with me and we had a table to ourselves. I would say that our evening meal was without incident. I recall that while I was in the restaurant, if it becomes necessary to exactly fix the time, that I telephoned my wife from a phone booth inside the restaurant. I made this call after my order had been taken but before I had been served.

"After the evening meal, inasmuch as the restaurant was somewhat crowded, I left a few minutes before my two companions in order to go outside and have a cigar. I would say this was some time around 7:15 p.m. I sat outside and enjoyed my cigar for a short while. I specifically recall that the street was very quiet and peaceful and, in fact, it was so quiet that I could hear the traffic signal mechanism in a near-by control box. I was joined shortly thereafter by Clark Olsen and a few minutes later Rev. James Reeb came out and I understand that the reason that he was delayed briefly was because he had made a telephone call to his wife. I had never been to this restaurant before.

"I recall that seated at near-by tables in this restaurant were Dr. Homer Jack, Director, Department of Social Responsibility, Unitarian Universalist Association, Boston, Massachusetts, and The Rev. Gerald Erick of Liberal Religious Students, 64 Marlborough Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

"Special Agents McCabe and Hodgins have exhibited to me a series of photographs and from these I have selected a photograph which bears on the reverse side the name of Elmer L. Cook. By way of explanation, James Reeb and Clark Olson and I were walking away from the restaurant. It was now dark, the street lights were lit and our attention was attracted by someone yelling something about, 'Hey, you niggers' or words to that effect. I looked up and there were several individuals approaching us and I got one good look at one of them before I dropped to a crouching position to protect myself. The photograph of Elmer L. Cook looks most like my recollection of the lead person coming across the street. I have also selected another photograph which bears on the reverse side the name of Namon O'Neal Hoggie. He also resembles the lead individual coming across the street but not quite as much as the photo of Elmer L. Cook.

"I have also viewed a photograph which bears on the reverse side the name of William Stanley Hoggie and while I cannot identify him I feel certain that I saw him before in Selma that day.

"None of these men was in Walker's restaurant while we were eating, to the best of my knowledge. When I came out of the restaurant and was having my cigar, I do not recall seeing them in the vicinity.

"I have read the above voluntary statement of seven pages which is true to the best of my recollection. I have signed each page and initialed any corrections.

/s/ Orloff W. Miller

5.

BS 44-432

"Witness: Arthur F. Hodgans, Special Agent,
F.B.I., Boston, Mass., Mar. 23, 1965

"Witness: Bernard T. McCabe, Special Agent,
F.B.I., Boston, Mass., March 23, 1965"

Rev. MILLER stated he would be willing to testify at any time
with respect to this matter.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 16, 1965

1

Miss NANCY JEWEL PARKER, age 20, Secretary of Dallas County Voters League located in the Boynton Insurance Agency office at 21 Franklin Street, home address Route 5, Box 184, Selma, Alabama, advised that she was working in her office with DIANE BEVEL answering the phone during the evening of March 9, 1965. She stated that she usually leaves the office at 5 p.m. but on that particular night was working late, primarily answering the telephone. She said that between 7 and 7:30 p.m., exact time undetermined, three white men came into the office, two of whom were helping the third who appeared to be in pain, although she at this time could not see any injuries. One of those helping assist the third man was injured over one eye and either had a bruise or blood at the injured area. They told her that they were ministers and one said that the most injured minister had been attacked by unknown persons and they had come from Walker's Cafe and wanted to get a doctor to examine him immediately.

She said at this point DIANE BEVEL came from the rear office to the front office where the ministers were to see what was going on and immediately went back into the back room where she attempted to call Anderson's Ambulance but was unable to get them right away. She said Mrs. BEVEL then telephoned the Burwell Infirmary to advise them that she was sending an injured man over there.

She stated that she does not know any of the ministers by name and had never seen them before or since.

She stated that she then remembered that Mrs. BEVEL had been unable to get an ambulance by phone so Miss PARKER accompanied one of the ministers, believed to be Reverend MILLER, to the corner of Alabama and Franklin Avenue to Miller's Funeral Home where she got an ambulance and driver to come to the insurance office. The most injured minister was then placed on a stretcher and put into the ambulance and the other two ministers entered the ambulance and departed for the infirmary.

She stated that there was so much excitement and confusion that she does not clearly recall what occurred but does recall that one minister mentioned that they had been beaten up by five or

On 3/15/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
by RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/16/65

six men near Walker's Cafe and that he had lost his glasses. She recalled that the most injured minister kept asking the other two when they were going to get a doctor. She said the whole incident took only a few minutes and after the ministers departed she and Mrs. BEVEL returned to their business and did not telephone the police.

She said that everything was quiet on the street and she did not see anyone outside and has no further information regarding this matter.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 16, 19651

Mrs. DIANE BEVEL was interviewed at the Boynton Insurance Company, 21 Franklin Street, at which time she stated that she is the Assistant Administrator of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and resides at 208 3rd Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama.

She said on the evening of March 9, 1965, she was working in the Boynton Insurance office space and at an undetermined time three men came into the office who identified themselves as Reverend REEB, Reverend MILLER and Reverend OLSEN, who were complete strangers to her. She could only approximate the time as 8 p.m. when they arrived. She stated that Reverend REEB was assisted by one of the other ministers and he immediately sat down on the couch. One other minister, believed to be Reverend MILLER, had some red bruises around the head area and the other minister had no visible injuries. Reverend MILLER told her that they had been attacked and that Reverend REEB had been struck on the head with a club. She said she attempted to call an ambulance from the Anderson Ambulance Service but was unable to get one and NANCY PARKER, another girl in the office, went to the corner of Alabama and Franklin Streets where she got an ambulance to come from the Miller's Funeral Home. The ambulance came very quickly and Reverend REEB insisted that he could walk but they put him on the stretcher and placed him in the ambulance which she directed to the Burwell Infirmary. She said she then telephoned the infirmary advising them that an injured man was being brought to them for immediate treatment.

She stated that approximately one-half hour later Dr. DINKINS, whose office is above the Boynton Insurance office, called her from the infirmary advising that they had to take Reverend REEB to Birmingham and needed \$150 for admittance fee. She wrote a check on funds of the SCLC and a short time later Reverend MILLER came by and picked up the check and departed and she has not seen any of them since that time and has no further recollection of this matter.

On 3/15/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
by RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/16/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/22/65

Mr. BENJAMIN J. MILLER, owner of Miller's Funeral Service, 1220 Alabama Avenue, advised that during the evening of March 9, 1965, just before dark three white men stopped at his place of business and inquired for directions to a colored cafe, but did not specify any particular cafe. MILLER said he directed them to the 100 block of Washington Street advising them that there were two Negro cafes in that block.

He stated that between 7:00 and 8:00 p.m., that evening, a colored lady, name unknown, possibly Mrs. BEVEL, from Boynton Insurance Agency, one half block down the street, came into his office and asked him if he could take three men to the hospital, one of whom had been beaten over the head. He said he immediately drove his ambulance down to Boynton's Office on Franklin Street, where he found three white men in the office. He identified photographs of Reverend MILLER and Reverend OLSEN as two of the men who did not seem to be injured and the other he knew as Reverend REEB. He stated that Reverend REEB appeared to be in pain and was holding his head while the other two ministers were holding him seated on a desk. He said the other two ministers tried to get Reverend REEB on to the ambulance cot, but REEB did not seem to know what was going on and appeared not to want to get onto the ambulance cot. He said the other two men had to hold him in the cot while they put him in the ambulance.

He said one of the ministers told him to take them to a colored hospital and Mrs. BEVEL consequently told him to take them to Burwell Infirmary. He stated that as he started off, one of the ministers asked him to drive past the intersection of Washington Street and Selma Avenue as he wanted to look for his glasses. He said he drove the ambulance north to Walker's Cafe at the intersection of Selma Avenue and Washington Street, but the two ministers saw four to six white men standing near the Silver Moon Cafe and they all decided it would be best not to stop as the ministers appeared to be afraid.

Mr. MILLER said he could not recognize any of the white men standing on the corner as his attention was directed to driving the ambulance.

On 3/21/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD BUCARO and

RICHARD A. HARDOCK RB/jsw

Date dictated 3/22/65

He stated that the three ministers made no comment on the way to Burwell Infirmary that he could recall, but they did close the curtains of the ambulance as they appeared to be afraid. Upon arrival at Burwell Infirmary, they unloaded Reverend REEB and took him directly to the Emergency Room.

MILLER stated they were at Burwell Infirmary for 15 to 20 minutes while Mrs. ANDERSON, the owner of the hospital, tried to locate a Dr. JENKINS. He stated that when they arrived in the Emergency Room, Reverend REEB got off of the ambulance cot by himself but they picked him up and placed him on the emergency table. He said he did not hear Reverend REEB say anything at all during the entire trip.

Mr. MILLER said that he departed the hospital at this point and could furnish no further information regarding the trip to the hospital.

MILLER stated that he believed it is possible that the three men to whom he gave directions to the colored cafe were Reverends MILLER, REEB, and OLSEN; however, he could not be absolutely certain.

Photographs of ELMER L. COOK, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, R.B. KELLY, and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE were displayed to Mr. MILLER who stated that he could not recognize them as any persons he knew or saw in the vicinity of Washington Street and Selma Avenue at any time.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

March 10, 1965

Date

MARIUS J. ANDERSON, 1413 3rd Avenue, Selma, Alabama, advised that he was the driver of the ambulance originally starting with Reverend JAMES REEB from Selma to Birmingham, Alabama; however, his ambulance had a blowout near Radio Station WGWC, and they switched ambulances at this point. CHARLES WILLIAMS, 709 Philpot Avenue, Selma, Alabama, was the driver of the second ambulance from Selma to Birmingham. ANDERSON stated he accompanied WILLIAMS, as well as Reverends MILLER and OLSEN in the ambulance from Selma to Birmingham, Alabama.

ANDERSON said that when they were stopped near Radio Station WGWC, switching ambulances, a car with three white men, a 1963 Chevrolet, Impala, four door, white over dark bottom, with a trailer hook on the rear, came up to the ambulance and wanted to know what was going on. ANDERSON said that JOHN SOUTH, white male, who is the manager of the Holsum Bread Company, Selma, came up to the ambulance to see what was going on, and was believed to have observed these three unknown individuals. He said neither he nor WILLIAMS knew these three white men, and due to their nature of inquiry, he did not believe everything was "just right."

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BN 44-1232

by SA RALPH N. BUTLER: cla Date dictated 3/10/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 16, 1965

1

Mr. MARIUS J. ANDERSON, Administrator, Burwell Infirmary, 508 Philpot Street, stated that he was notified at approximately 7:30-7:45 p.m. on March 9, 1965, by WALTER (LNU), an employee of the Anderson Funeral Home, which is an organization connected with the Burwell Infirmary, that a call had been received from the Boynton Insurance Office indicating that there was an injured patient there who needed to be brought to the infirmary. ANDERSON stated that he immediately drove an ambulance to the Boynton Insurance Company but found that BEN J. MILLER of the Miller Funeral Service had been there a few minutes earlier and picked up the patient and was en route to the Burwell Infirmary. Upon returning to the infirmary Mr. ANDERSON found three ministers, one of whom was Reverend REEB, and another who gave him a calling card in the name of Reverend ORLOFF W. MILLER. They were all in the emergency room arranging some attention for Reverend REEB and Reverend MILLER who had been injured on the forehead and was bleeding.

He stated further that Reverend REEB had been injured on the left side of the head over the temple and may have been bleeding slightly. The third minister, name unrecalled, had no apparent injuries. He stated that he asked Mrs. BLANCHE COWAN, Nurse Supervisor, to call the police, which she did, and within five or six minutes Officer ELLISON and another policeman arrived and obtained a written report from the other two ministers as Reverend REEB was in no condition to talk.

Dr. W.B. DINKINS arrived shortly and examined Reverend REEB, the most injured patient, and while Reverend REEB was being x-rayed he examined Reverend MILLER.

Dr. DINKINS after examining Reverend REEB ordered that he be immediately removed to the University Hospital at Birmingham, Alabama and made arrangements by phone with that hospital for a neurosurgeon to be available.

Reverend MILLER and the other minister departed for the Boynton Insurance Company office where they were to obtain money from Mrs. BEVEL for the entrance fee to the University Hospital.

On 3/15/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/16/65

2
MO 44-1233

Between 8:20 and 8:30 p.m., Mr. ANDERSON assisted by LEE CHAPMAN, a male nurse, loaded Reverend REEB into an ambulance and departed for the Boynton Insurance Company where they picked up the other two ministers and Dr. DINKINS and proceeded on towards Birmingham. He recalled that Reverend REEB at this time was unconscious. Approximately three miles out of Selma the ambulance developed tire trouble on Highway 22 at 8:35 p.m. He and Dr. DINKINS decided it would be easier to obtain a different ambulance than to repair the tire so they turned back several miles to the WGWC Radio Station located approximately at the city limits where he called the Williams Funeral Home for another ambulance. The other ambulance arrived in approximately 10-15 minutes driven by CHARLES A. WILLIAMS and they transferred Reverend REEB to the new ambulance. Mr. ANDERSON and the other two ministers rode in the ambulance while Dr. DINKINS rode in his own automobile behind the ambulance with JAMES PRITCHETT, his driver, who had been summoned by phone from the radio station.

Mr. ANDERSON stated that they arrived at University Hospital, Birmingham, at approximately 11 p.m., where Reverend REEB was taken into the emergency room. While Reverend REEB was being treated the other two ministers told him they had been at Walker's Cafe on Washington Street in Selma for dinner and left intending to walk back to Brown's Chapel and proceeded down in that direction. They told him that they heard some people jeering them from across the street and Reverend MILLER specifically said that upon looking around he saw four or five men approaching them from across the street at the point where they reached the vicinity of the Silver Moon Cafe at the corner of Washington and Selma Streets. Reverend MILLER told him that Reverend REEB did not look around at the men approaching and he was struck from behind with a club of some sort not further identified. Reverend MILLER told him that he possibly could identify the attackers but there was so much excitement and they turned their attention upon Reverend REEB who was knocked down to assist him and did not observe where the attackers went to from the attack scene. Mr. ANDERSON said he could furnish no further information regarding this attack.

MO 44-1233

Mr. ANDERSON advised that records of the Burwell Infirmary show that at 7:45 p.m., March 9, 1965, Reverend JAMES REEB was brought in for emergency treatment complaining of pain of the head and his blood pressure was taken and found to be 140 over 100.

Dr. DINKINS arrived and examined the patient ordering x-rays. X-ray incomplete as patient moved. Patient went unconscious in x-ray room, started vomiting and went into convulsions slightly and stiffening of the extremities. Dr. DINKINS then ordered the patient transferred to University Hospital and ice bag applied to patients head for trip.

Mr. ANDERSON stated that the emergency record book shows the following information:

"James Reeb - Boston, Massachusetts, age 38, blood pressure 140 over 100, bruises on head - hit with club.

Orloff Miller - Boston, Massachusetts, age 33, blood pressure 160 over 100, bruises on head - hit with club, skull contusions.

Clark Olsen - San Francisco, California, age 31 (lost glasses).

Dr. Dinkins called and came - examined these patients. X-rayed. James Reeb became unconscious - vomiting - transferred to University Hospital, Birmingham - possible cerebral concussion - contusions and lacerations".

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 10, 1965

Doctor W. B. DINKINS, office at 21½ Franklin Street, Selma, Alabama, residence 2507 Eteredge Avenue, Selma, Alabama, advised that he was accompanied by JAMES PRICHETT, 513 Winter Avenue, Selma, Alabama, in his car, which followed the ambulance carrying Reverend JAMES REEB from Selma to Birmingham.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama, File # BH 44-1232

by SA RALPH N. BUTLER:ela Date dictated 3/10/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 16, 1965

1

Dr. WILLIAM B. DINKINS, home address 2507 Etheredge Avenue, Selma, was interviewed at his office located at 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ Franklin Street, Selma, and furnished the following information:

Between 8:15 and 8:20 p.m., March 9, 1965, he received a telephone call at his home. DINKINS stated that his wife answered the telephone call. Upon hanging up she told him that someone was hurt at the hospital and that he had been requested to come there as soon as possible. DINKINS knew nothing further concerning the incident and the individuals involved at this time.

DINKINS arrived at the Burwell Infirmary (hospital) at approximately 8:30 p.m., at which time he observed three white ministers, one named REEB, one named MILLER and the other one unknown, Nurse CALEB, Mrs. ANDERSON (owner of the hospital) and MARIUS ANDERSON. DINKINS made a cursory examination of the three white ministers to determine which one needed the most medical attention. With this cursory examination he began a more thorough examination of Rev. REEB. DINKINS described REEB at this point as being in a "semi-coma, responding somewhat to stimulus". He related that REEB was not speaking at this time but would occasionally groan or moan. DINKINS observed the area in the vicinity of the left temple which appeared to be a laceration upon initial viewing. After cleaning the area around the wound he determined that this was simply a small contusion. Feeling with his fingers he determined the possibility of a fracture beneath the skin. At this time he ordered x-rays to be taken.

While REEB was in the x-ray room he began vomiting and DINKINS was again called to his side. At this time DINKINS observed "signs of a blood clot - pupillary changes" which he had not previously observed in REEB. At this point DINKINS ordered REEB to be transferred to the University Hospital in Birmingham in order that a neurosurgeon could be consulted. He immediately telephoned the hospital in Birmingham and made arrangements for them to receive Rev. REEB.

The white minister whose name he does not recall received no visible injuries and stated that he had been struck about the head but that he was not in any pain.

On 3/15/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/16/65

The other white minister, last name believed to be MILLER, had contusions and lumps on the left center of his forehead. DINKINS diagnosed these to be superficial and simply cleaned the wounds.

DINKINS stated that from his experience with the treating of numerous individuals involved in assault and accidents of one form or another he would state that Rev. REEB had been struck with a blunt instrument. He explained that this was due mainly to the fact that there was no large open wound.

At approximately 8:50 p.m., Rev. REEB was put in an ambulance and taken to the Boynton Insurance Company at #21 Franklin Street where the hospital admission fee of \$150 was obtained. The ambulance then left for Birmingham, Alabama and University Hospital. In the ambulance were the three ministers, Dr. DINKINS, a male nurse by the name of LEE CHAPMAN, and MARIUS ANDERSON driving. Approximately four miles out of the city limits of Selma, the ambulance had trouble with the right rear tire. It was agreed that it would be quicker to obtain another ambulance than to change the tire on the old ambulance and therefore they then drove back towards Selma, stopped at Radio Station WGWC, and MARIUS ANDERSON called for another ambulance.

While waiting at the radio station Dr. DINKINS called for his own personal car to be driven out to the radio station, in order that he might facilitate and expedite the trip. He stated that he did this so that he might have radio contact with police officers in the towns that he would be driving through to get to Birmingham.

The ambulance with Rev. REEB left the radio station at approximately 9:30 p.m. and arrived at the University Hospital in Birmingham at approximately 10:55 p.m., at which time Rev. REEB was immediately taken to the emergency room.

Dr. DINKINS stated that they did not discuss at any time with the ministers what had happened to them. While giving Rev. REEB the examination at Burwell Infirmary in Selma he overheard the two other ministers talking to Selma Police officers and telling them what had happened.

DINKINS could furnish no further information in regard to this matter.

Date 3/14/65

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CHARLES A. WILLIAMS, 1325 Cole Street, Selma, Alabama, was interviewed at the Dallas County Sheriff's Office, Selma, in the presence of Lt. R. H. HOLMES and State Investigator RUFUS W. HEAD, Alabama Department of Public Safety.

WILLIAMS works for his father who operates the Williams Funeral Home in Selma. On Tuesday night, March 9, 1965, a telephone call was received at the Williams Funeral Home requesting that an ambulance be sent north on Alabama Highway 22 to carry some people to Birmingham, Alabama. CHARLES WILLIAMS left in the Williams' Ambulance accompanied by JAMES PRITCHETT. They found an Anderson Ambulance located on Alabama Highway 22 about three miles north of Selma at about 9:20 or 9:30 PM. MORRIS ANDERSON was the driver of the ambulance which had been forced to stop because of a blowout. Three white ministers were with MORRIS ANDERSON, one of them being a cot patient. A City policecar had arrived just before the Williams' Ambulance, and was parked nearby, also a small Cosmopolitan Rambler driven by JOHN SOUTH who works for a Selma bread company. WILLIAMS also remembers a 1963 Chevrolet, 4-door, sedan, at the scene but did not know the identity of its driver. When WILLIAMS arrived ANDERSON requested him to transfer the passengers to his ambulance and take them to a hospital in Birmingham. It was about 10 or 15 minutes wait before WILLIAMS could continue the trip while Dr. DINKINS, who was accompanying the injured men, obtained his own car from Selma. Then the three ministers were placed in the Williams Ambulance and WILLIAMS accompanied by JAMES PRITCHETT proceeded to Birmingham with Dr. DINKINS following in his car. ANDERSON had asked the Selma Police Department for an escort and was told that they would radio ahead for clearance. They did receive a police escort through Clanton, Alabama, and the trip proceeded without incident.

During the delay while the ministers were being transferred from the Anderson Ambulance to the Williams Ambulance, there was no trouble and no sign of hostility. SOUTH and the few other persons who stopped seemed to be interested in what was going on and tried to offer assistance. WILLIAMS recalled one man whose identity he did not know inquiring about whether there was a doctor and mentioning that there was a cat and dog hospital down the road and that the doctor there would be better than none at all.

On 3/11/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lr Date dictated 3/13/65

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MO 44-1233

WILLIAMS noted that one of the ministers whose name was not known to him was a cot patient. Also he did not know the seriousness of any injury he might have suffered. The other two ministers appeared to have minor injuries if any. They rode with Dr. DINKINS in his car on the remaining portion of the trip to Birmingham although they had been in the Anderson Ambulance for the first part of the trip. One of these ministers told WILLIAMS that they had been attacked by about 5 men who approached them that evening as they left Walker's Cafe and walked down the street. WILLIAMS stated he had no other information concerning the circumstances of this attack.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 10, 1965

Doctor R. S. HOGAN, neurosurgeon, Birmingham, Alabama, advised his diagnosis of Reverend JAMES REEB was "large epidural hematoma over left cerebral hemisphere and comminuted skull fracture (gross)." Doctor HOGAN added that Reverend REEB's condition was critical, and at that time he was in the operating room.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BM 44-1232

by SA MONTE E. HANLEY and
SA RALPH N. BUTLER:ela Date dictated 3/10/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/10/65

SHELBY MITCHELL, Director of Admissions, University Hospital and Hillman Clinic, 619 South 19th Street, Birmingham, Alabama, advised that the following individuals were admitted to the emergency room of the hospital approximately 11:00 P.M. on March 9, 1965:

REV. JAMES REEB, age 38, address #3 Half Moon Street, Boston, Massachusetts, parents Mr. and Mrs. J. D. REEB, South Bend, Indiana, admitting diagnosis head injury, admitted to surgery 11:30 P.M. March 9, 1965, and condition listed as critical.

ORLOFF W. MILLER, age 33, address 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts, treated for head injuries in emergency room and discharged. Temporary Birmingham, Alabama, address is REV. HERBERT EBER.

REV. CLARK OLSEN, address Berkeley, California, not injured and not treated at hospital.

MITCHELL advised that REV. CLARK OLSEN told him that he (OLSEN) was a member of the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarians, Berkeley, California, the REV. JAMES REEB was Executive Secretary of the Student Religious Liberals, National Unitarian College Program, Boston, Massachusetts, and that ORLOFF W. MILLER was on the staff of the American Friends Service Committee, Boston, Massachusetts.

MITCHELL also advised that he had talked with Mrs. REEB, wife of REV. JAMES REEB, and she told him that they are now residing at Silver Spring, Maryland, telephone #933-4541.

MITCHELL stated that DR. STANLEY GRAHAM, a member of the neurosurgeons staff of the hospital, was the admitting physician.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232

by SA MONTE E. HANLEY and
SA RALPH N. BUTLER:jmr -ls Date dictated 3/10/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 13, 1965

JAMES E. CRANK, Associate General Director, University of Alabama Hospital, advised that the condition of Reverend JAMES J. REEB from the time of his admission at 11:00 P.M. on March 9, 1965, until he expired at 6:55 P.M. on March 11, 1965, was extremely critical, with a poor prognosis. CRANK stated this minister had been admitted with multiple skull fractures and a large blood clot over the left side of the brain.

An operation upon this minister was performed, which lasted one hour and ten minutes. At 7:30 A.M. and again at 7:35 A.M., this patient's heart stopped, but was immediately restored. Restoration was accomplished by closed chest massage, with an injection of a stimulant into the heart. Three physicians were in attendance, along with nursing personnel, during and following the cardiac arrest. Artificial respiration was supplied through an automatic respirator. Also following the operation, oxygen continued to be administered through an automatic breathing device. He stated a highly qualified team of neurosurgeons and other specialists were in constant attendance.

CRANK stated he had not been able to determine why this patient had been brought so great a distance as he was made to travel in his critical condition, although, he added, apparently his minister associates, as well as others concerned about his medical condition, acted in the patient's best interest.

He stated the opinion of the attending physicians was that this patient could not survive, and that while his life was being sustained by machinery following the operation, he might possibly be considered clinically deceased, except for the machinery.

On 3/11/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BB 44-1232
NO 44-1233

by SA JAMES ROYCE PECK:ela Date dictated 3/13/65

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CRANK stated this patient was never admitted to a hospital room, but following surgery remained in the hospital recovery room. He added the clothing of this minister had been suitably wrapped and made available to Rev. ORLOFF MILLER, on March 10, 1965.

CRANK named Dr. STANLEY GRAHAM, Hospital Neurosurgeon, as Rev. REEB's doctor, and explained that Dr. JORDAN K. DAVIS, Head Resident, Neurosurgery, was in constant assistance, as well as other members of the hospital staff.

CRANK stated that during the morning of March 11, 1965, a determination had been made by the family of Rev. REEB, in consultation with hospital physicians and administrators, that it was advisable to bring about a progressive reduction in the use of the machinery apparatus being utilized by this patient, in order to test his body strength. He stated Mrs. REEB, as well as Mr. HARRY REEB, the patient's father, was given the opportunity to see the patient on the morning mentioned, for a short time. He stated after this visit by the family, those in attendance upon this patient were those physicians and specialists on the hospital staff, and no return visits were made by members of the family while the patient continued in his unchanged condition.

CRANK stated after the demise of this patient, at 6:55 P.M., the patient's wife was allowed opportunity to visit the bedside for the last time, after which the body was scheduled to be removed from this hospital and to travel by an indirect route to the morgue, where an autopsy will be performed. He added following the autopsy, the body of Rev. REEB would be removed to a nearby funeral home, where cremation would take place.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 13, 1965

Dr. JORDAN K. DAVIS, Head Resident, Neurosurgery, University of Alabama Hospital, advised he was in attendance upon Reverend JAMES REEB, although the operating physician of this patient had been Dr. STANLEY GRAHAM. He stated the condition of this patient was extremely critical, and the prognosis was poor, with no possible chance that the patient might improve or even regain consciousness. Dr. DAVIS stated it was uncertain how long this patient would continue to survive under the present means which were being used to support his respiration and heart.

He stated the blow which this patient had received had been delivered in the most vulnerable portion of the human brain, which was most acute to head injury. He explained the area of the skull which received the blow was the thinnest portion of the human skull. He added further this injury sustained by Rev. REEB was the only injury received by this patient. He stated every effort was being made by this hospital to insure the maximum comfort to this patient in spite of the poor prognosis expected.

On 3/10/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232
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by SA JAMES ROYCE PECK:ela Date dictated 3/13/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 13, 1965

Mr. ELMO DERRICK, Administrative Assistant to Associate General Director, University of Alabama Hospital, advised he had examined a hospital radiologist's report of an x-ray taken on March 10, 1965, of the skull of Rev. ORLOFF MILLER. He stated this report contained information that no fractures were detected by this radiologist. He stated additional information pertaining to this matter would be furnished in a written report by this radiologist.

On 3/13/65 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1232
NO 44-1233
by SA JAMES ROYCE PECK:ela Date dictated 3/13/65

MO 44-1233

POLICE INVESTIGATION, ARRESTS AND INTERVIEWS
OF SUBJECTS R. B. KELLY AND WILLIAM STANLEY
HOGGLE

SECTION III

Captain FRANK R. LA PORTE, Identification Officer, Selma Police Department, Selma, Alabama, made available a copy of the Offense Report prepared by Lieutenant KNIGHT and Officers ELLISON, MC MILLAN, and CROWDER. This report reflected that ORLOFF MILLER, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts; CLARK OLSEN, 427 Yale Avenue, Berkeley, California; and JAMES REEB of Boston, Massachusetts, were admitted to Burwell Hospital, 508 Philpot Avenue, Selma, Alabama, after being beaten by five white males wearing sports clothing, of middle age, and of medium build. According to this report, the incident occurred at 7:30 p.m., at the corner of Washington Street and Selma Avenue, beside the Silver Moon Cafe. The report was received by the Selma Police Department at 7:58 p.m., March 9, 1965.

The report reflected the following information:

"Victim's stated that they ate supper at Walkers Cafe and were returning to Brown Chapel. They were walking north on Washington St. and as they turned right on Selma Ave. a group of five white male came up behind them and said 'Look at the niggers' and proceeded to beat them. James Reeb was knock down with a blow to the head, Orloff Miller was also hit with club and knock down, Clark Olsen was hit by one of the men, who used his fist, knocking Olsen glasses off.

"Victim's stated that James Reeb was out cold, and that they did not know where to go or what to do, so they took him to Boynton's Office, 21 Franklin St. Victims were taken to Burwell's Infirmary by Anderson's Ambulance.

"Orloff Miller was treated by Dr. Dinkins for a cut on left forehead that the doctor said was not serious. However James Reeb is thought to have sever head injuries and has been taken to University Hospital in Birmingham. Clark Olsen was not injured in the assault.

"Victim's stated that they were in Selma on behalf of the Civil Rights Movement and had plan to leave tomorrow.

On 3/10/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SA JOHN J. SWEENEY:gmh Date dictated 3/13/65

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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"Olsen_ glasses were found on north side of Silver Moon Cafe, between parked cars, this is where incident took place."

Date 3/14/65

1

Lt. DANIEL P. KNIGHT, Selma Police Department, Selma, Alabama, assigned to the investigation of the assault of three white ministers at Selma, Alabama, on night of March 9, 1965, advised that the Selma Police Department first learned of the incident at 7:58 PM on March 9, 1965, when a telephone call was received from the Burwell Hospital in Selma. Selma Police Officers CHARLES McMILLAN and F. J. ELLISON were sent to the Burwell Hospital to obtain details of the complaint. They reported back to Police Headquarters by radio that an assault had been committed by unidentified white men on three white ministers in an alley by the Eddie Walker Cafe on Washington Street. This Cafe is located $\frac{1}{2}$ block south of the Silver Moon Cafe where later information indicated that the attack occurred. Lt. KNIGHT accompanied by J. E. CROWDER, Police photographer, went to Walker's Cafe and tried to locate witnesses who might be able to identify subjects of the investigation. They could learn nothing here concerning the attack.

KNIGHT subsequently received information that the assault actually occurred at the Silver Moon Cafe, Washington Street and Selma Avenue, and also learned that the victims of the assault had first gone to the Boynton Insurance Agency before they were taken to Burwell Hospital. KNIGHT had no information as to how they reached Boynton Insurance Agency from the vicinity of the Silver Moon Cafe.

KNIGHT's investigation continued and he learned later that evening that these ministers were attacked outside the Silver Moon Cafe, from EDGAR STRIPLING who works around the Silver Moon Cafe. He first learned of the possible involvement in the assault of ELMER COOK and R. B. KELLY. This was the following morning. STRIPLING did not identify either STANLEY HOGGLE or O'NEAL HOGGLE as participants in the assault. KNIGHT picked up R. B. KELLY at his place of employment, the La Porte TV Repair Shop, and brought him to Police Headquarters. During the questioning of KELLY admissions were made identifying STANLEY and O'NEAL HOGGLE as well as COOK as being involved in the assault on the men outside the Silver Moon Cafe. KELLY also informed Lt. KNIGHT that FLOYD GROOM was a witness. GROOM who was located on Wednesday morning, first identified only R. B. KELLY and ELMER COOK as participants in the attack.

On 3/12/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lb Date dictated 3/13/65

Following this preliminary interview with R. B. KELLY, he was booked at Selma Police Department on charge of attempt to murder. Lt. KNIGHT then went back to the TV Repair Shop where KELLY was employed and searched KELLY's 1955 white and green Oldsmobile, without a warrant. It was parked on the street outside the La Port TV Shop. Lt. KNIGHT found a .22 caliber single action revolver stamped as made in Germany and bearing serial number 400454 in the glove compartment. This gun was loaded. Also he obtained a wooden club which was lying unconcealed on the floor board in front of the rear seat. The gun and club were brought to Police Headquarters. Lt. KNIGHT exhibited these objects. It was noted that the club was about 14" long and about 1½" in diameter.

Date 3/13/65

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R. B. KELLEY, 137 Water Street, Selma, Alabama, was interviewed at the Selma Police Department by Lieutenant D. P. KNIGHT in the presence of Agents JOHN J. SWEENEY and JAMES MICHAEL BARKO. KELLEY furnished the following signed statement to Captain F. R. LA PORTE of the Selma Police Department, which was witnessed by Agents SWEENEY and BARKO:

"Date: March 10th, 1965 Page No. 1

"STATEMENT OF: R. B. KELLEY, white male, born March 7th, 1935—

"My name is R. B. KELLEY and I make the below statement of my own free will to CAPTAIN F. R. LA PORTE of the Selma Police Department in the presence of J. M. BARKO and J. J. SWEENEY of the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning a fight that happened at Selma Avenue and Washington Street about 7:30 PM in front of the Silvermoon Cafe. March 9th, 1965.

"Last night about 7:00 PM I went inside the SILVERMOON CAFE to have a drink. I sat at a table with CARL SEALY, BILL EDWARDS we all drank beer. I heard some one hollering and I went to the door and stepped out on the sidewalk in front of the SILVERMOON CAFE I saw two MEN lying on the sidewalk with black coats on, one of the men on the ground had his hands over his face and drewed up into a knot and I saw ELMER COOK kick this man in the upper part of his body, after seeing this I went back inside the cafe and went back to the table where CARL SEALY and BILL EDWARDS were sitting I finished my beer, shortly after the commotion outside I saw ELMER COOK, STANLEY HOFFLE and DUCK HOGGLE come into the SILVERMOON CAFE, ELMER was laughing, I did not hear him say anything because he was across the room from us, BILL EDWARDS and MYSELF left the SILVERMOON CAFE and went across the street to the COFFEE POT CAFE and had a beer, I called my wife from the COFFEE POT and BILL EDWARDS and MYSELF left and went back to the SILVERMOON CAFE, CARL SEALY was supposed

On 3/10/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SAs JOHN J. SWEENEY and
JAMES MICHAEL BARKO:gmh Date dictated 3/13/65

to wait on us but he had gone so BILL and I left and got into my car and rode down by the CHURCH on Sylvan Street, I brought BILL back to the COFFEE POT CAFE and put him out. I then picked my wife up at the DOWNTOWN DINNER CLUB on Broad Street and we went home.

"The above statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

(Signed) "R. B. KELLEY

"R. B. KELLEY
137 WATER AVENUE
SELMA, ALABAMA

"WITNESSES:

"D. P. KNIGHT
F. R. LA PORTE

"John J. Sweeney, SA, FBI, Mobile, Ala.
James Michael Barko, SA, FBI, Mobile, Ala."

The following description of R. B. KELLEY was obtained through observation and interview:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Born:	3/7/35 at Watley, Alabama
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	180 lbs.
Hair:	Blond
Eyes:	Blue
Complexion:	Fair
Build:	Medium
Occupation:	TV repairman, LaPorte's TV Service
Wife:	ALICE BREWER KELLEY 137 Water Street, Selma, Alabama

Captain F. R. LA PORTE, Selma Police Department, about three hours after the first statement was obtained from R. B. KELLEY advised that KELLEY had furnished him another statement. This statement was read by KELLEY in the presence of Agents BARKO and SWEENEY and KELLEY signed this statement in the presence of these Agents. This statement read as follows:

"Date March 10, 1965 Page No.1

"STATEMENT OF: R. B. KELLEY, white male, born March 7, 1935

"My name is R. B. KELLEY and I make the below statement of my own free will to CAPTAIN F. R. LA PORTE of the Selma Police Department.

"Seven o'clock P.M. March 9, 1965, Tuesday night, I went to the SILVERMOON CAFE with BILL EDWARDS AND CARL SEALY, we sat at a table near the entrance and ordered a beer. We were drinking the beer - I heard a commotion outside the SILVERMOON. I got up and walked to the door. When I was walking toward the door I saw three men running to the corner of the building. The three men were ELMER COOK, STANLEY HOGGLE, and DUCK HOGGLE. When I opened the door I saw two men with black coats on lying on the sidewalk. One of the men lying on the sidewalk was holding his hands over his head and drawn up into a knot. At this time, I saw ELMER COOK kick at this man - I could not tell whether he hit the man or not because I turned around and went back into the cafe. I also heard a lot of foul language as I was walking back to my table and in about five minutes ELMER, DUCK AND STANLEY came into the SILVERMOON CAFE. STANLEY and ELMER were laughing. I saw the butt of a gun sticking out of the right front pocket of STANLEY HOGGLES pants. In a few minutes a drunk known to me as 'SMITTY' came into the cafe and started mumbling something to DUCK HOGGLE. 'SMITTY' was bleeding around the mouth. The best I can remember, DUCK HOGGLE told 'SMITTY' if he did not stop running his mouth he was going to knock hell out of him. I didn't pay much attention to what was said. I wanted to get out of there. I told BILL EDWARDS to come on and go across the street to the COFFEE POT CAFE and get a beer. We left CARL SEALY and his brother-in-law, EARL MELTON, sitting at the table. EARL MELTON had come in after I had sat down at the table. BILL and I went to the COFFEE POT and drank a beer. I called my wife from there and BILL and I went back over to the SILVERMOON looking for CARL SEALY. When we saw that he had gone we left and got into my car and drove down by the CHURCH on SYLVAN STREET and I then drove back to the COFFEE POT and put BILL EDWARDS out there. I then went to the DOWNTOWN DINNER CLUB and picked up my wife and carried her home. I told her I was going back up town. I went to the COFFEE POT and had

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another beer with BILL EDWARDS. He asked me to take him across the river to get a check cashed. I drove him over to the GULF STATION across the river at the traffic light. I did not get out of the car but BILL came back with \$5.00. We drove down to the HOLLYWOOD CAFE and had a beer there. We left there and went back to the COFFEE POT CAFE and drank another beer and I then went home about eleven o'clock.

"The above statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

(Signed) "R. B. KELLEY

"R. B. KELLY
137 Water Avenue
Selma, Alabama

"Witnessess :

"F. R. LA PORTE
D. P. KNIGHT

"JOHN J. SWEENEY, SA, FBI, Mobile, Ala.
JAMES MICHAEL BARKO, SA, FBI, Mobile, Ala. "

Photographs of KELLEY were taken by Agent BARKO and by the Selma Police Department.

Prior to the reading of the above statement, KELLEY was reminded by SA JOHN J. SWEENEY of his rights again that he did not have to make any statement, that he was entitled to an attorney prior to making any statement, and that if he did make any statement, it could be used against him in a court of law. He was further advised that if he could not afford an attorney, the court would appoint one for him.

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

RG: 65 Federal Bureau of Investigation

SERIES:

NND PROJECT NUMBER: 50873

FOIA CASE NUMBER: 29727

WITHDRAWAL DATE: 11/20/2008

BOX: 01284

FOLDER: 0001

TAB: 6

DOC ID: 31206779

COPIES: 21 PAGES: 42

ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

FOLDER TITLE: 44-HQ-28441 110-120 Section 4

DOCUMENT DATE: 03/14/1965 DOCUMENT TYPE: Report

FROM:

TO:

SUBJECT: 44-28441-110 (pages 76-77)

The original version of this document has been withdrawn. Attached is a copy of the original with portions deleted for the following reason(s):

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

Date 3/14/65

1

WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, 915 Old Montgomery Road, Selma, Alabama, was interviewed at the Selma Police Department by R. W. HEAD, State Investigator for the State of Alabama, and Special Agent JOHN J. SWEENEY. HOGGLE was advised by SA SWEENEY that he did not have to make a statement and that any statement he did make could be used against him in a court of law. He was also advised of his right to consult an attorney and no threats or promises were made to him.

HOGGLE advised that on March 9, 1965, he went to the C and C Novelty Shop, 129 Washington Street, Selma, which is operated by ELMER COOK, about 6 or 6:30 p.m. He said that his brother, "DUCK" HOGGLE, was also at the C and C Novelty Shop when he arrived. He said that a short time later they were joined by [redacted] who operates a cabinet shop in Selma. HOGGLE said that they all had several drinks there and then went across the street to the Silver Moon Cafe at about 7:30 p.m. where they had a cup of coffee. He said that they all stayed at the Silver Moon Cafe for about 15 or 20 minutes and then drove out to the Bamboo Club on the outskirts of Selma. He advised he traveled in his own car, a 1957 four-door Chevrolet, with a blue bottom and white top. He said the others possibly all took their own automobiles. HOGGLE stated that he and the other three stayed at the Bamboo Club until approximately 11 p.m. when he left by himself and went home. He stated the other three were still at the Club; however, they were getting ready to leave at the time of his departure.

HOGGLE emphatically denied any connection with or knowledge of the beating of the three white ministers in front of the Silver Moon Cafe on the evening of March 9, 1965.

HOGGLE stated that on the evening of March 9, 1965, he was wearing khaki pants and shirt and a suede jacket and no hat. HOGGLE stated his brother "DUCK" was

On 3/10/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SA JOHN J. SWEENEY:gmh Date dictated 3/13/65

Screened

By: Searcher2 Date:

MO 44-1233

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FOIA(b)6
FOIA(b)7 - (C)

wearing a blue auto mechanic uniform; that COOK was wearing a dark gray suit; and that [REDACTED] was wearing khaki pants and shirt.

The following description of WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE was obtained from the records of the Selma Police Department:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Born:	3/27/28, Hale County, Alabama
Height:	5 feet 9 inches
Weight:	170 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Complexion:	Ruddy
Build:	Slender
Occupation:	Salesman
Wife:	MINNIE JEWEL HOGGLE, 915 Old Montgomery Road, Selma, Alabama
Father:	OSCAR HOGGLE Greensboro, Alabama.

PROSECUTIVE ACTION

The facts of this case were discussed with Acting Assistant Attorney General JOHN DOAR, Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice at Selma, Alabama, in March 10, 1965, by SAC EARL M. DAINNESS and SA ROBERT L. FRYE. Mr. DOAR authorized the filing of a complaint charging ELMER L. COOK, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY with violation of Title 18, Section 241, United States Code, in that on or about March 9, 1965, they did conspire to injure, oppress, threaten and intimidate JAMES REEB, CLARK OLSEN and ORLOFF MILLER from exercising rights as secured to them by the constitution and laws of the United States. This complaint was filed on the same date by SA JOHN J. SWEENEY before United States Commissioner MARIAN HOUSE WALLACE, Northern Division, Southern District of Alabama, at Selma, Alabama.

Immediately after issuance of Federal warrants SA ROBERT L. FRYE notified Captain FRANK LA PORTE, Selma Police Department, of the issuance of Federal process. At that time Captain LA PORTE requested that Agents appear at Selma Police Department inasmuch as he expected that ELMER COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY would momentarily appear before City Judge EDGAR RUSSELL, JR., to post bonds on local charges of three counts of assault to murder. SAC DAINNESS and SA ROBERT L. FRYE appeared at Selma Police Department where at approximately midnight on March 10, 1965, ELMER COOK and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE each posted three bonds of \$2,500 each on local charges of assault to murder. COOK and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE were taken into Federal custody by SAC DAINNESS and SA FRYE and were taken to the residence of United States Commissioner MARIAN HOUSE WALLACE where they were released upon posting bonds of \$5,000 each. Attorney JOSEPH PILCHER, JR., Selma, Alabama, was present representing ELMER COOK and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE. He informed that he also would represent NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and that he would surrender him to custody the following day.

R. B. KELLY who failed to post bond on state charges on the night of March 10, 1965, was held in city custody at Selma City Jail.

On the morning of March 11, 1965, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE was presented at the Selma Police Department by Attorney JOSEPH PILCHER, JR. At that time he posted three bonds of \$2,500 each

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and was released from custody on three charges of assault to murder. He was then taken into Federal custody by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and SA CHILTON B. CREASON.

R. B. KELLY also posted three bonds of \$2,500 each approved by City Judge EDGAR P. RUSSELL, JR., on morning of March 11, 1965, and was taken into custody by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and SA CHILTON B. CREASON.

United States Commissioner MARIAN HOUSE WALLACE appeared at Selma Police Department at 12:30 PM on March 11, 1965, at which time she fixed bonds of \$5,000 each for R. B. KELLY and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE who were thereupon released upon posting these bonds. Attorney JOHN RANDOLPH SMITH, Selma, Alabama, appeared representing R. B. KELLY and Attorney JOSEPH PILCHER, JR., appeared in behalf of his client NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE.

Mr. PILCHER and Mr. SMITH advised SA CHILTON B. CREASON that they would not permit their clients to discuss this case further with investigating officers.

SAC of Birmingham Office advised SAC EARL M. DALNESS at 7:15 PM on March 11, 1965, that Rev. JAMES J. REEB died at 6:55 PM that night at the University Hospital, Birmingham, Alabama. This information was immediately furnished to J. WILSON BAKER, Director of Public Safety. Director BAKER informed that in anticipation of the death of REEB, he had issued new warrants against all subjects charging them with murder and that immediate action would be taken to re-arrest them. On the night of March 11, 1965, all subjects surrendered to the Selma Police Department and new bonds of \$25,000 each were set by City Judge EDGAR P. RUSSELL, JR. Bonds in this amount were approved that evening for ELMER L. COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY. NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE made bond during the early morning of March 12, 1965.

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INTERVIEWS OF WITNESSES NEAR SCENE OF ASSAULT

SECTION IV

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 3/13/65

Captain FRANK R. LA PORTE, Selma Police Department, Selma, Alabama, made available a copy of a signed statement furnished by FLOYD GROOM on March 10, 1965. This statement was witnessed by Captain LA PORTE and by Captain WILLIAM WARE and reads as follows:

"Date March 10th, 1965 Page No. 1

"STATEMENT OF: FLOYD GROOM, white male age 50 years old.

"My name is FLOYD GROOM I am 50 years old and work at CAMPBELL WELDING COMPANY in Selma, Alabama. I am making this statement to LIEUTENANT D. P. KNIGHT, SR. of the SELMA POLICE DEPARTMENT of my own free will.

"Last night which was Tuesday I was standing on the corner of Selma Avenue and Washington Street by TURNER MOTOR COMPANY USED CAR LOT. I was on my way home. I saw two (2) WHITE MEN dressed in black clothes get out of a bus that was parked by a alley near O'BRIEN PLUMBING COMPANY. The two men walked west on Selma Avenue to the corner of the SILVERMOON CAFE and when they got to the South East corner of the SILVERMOON CAFE they were met by ELMER COOK, DUCK HOGGLE, R. B. KELLY, STANLEY HOGGLE and BEN VARDAMAN. ELMER COOK hit one of the men and knocked him down, the rest of the men jumped on the other man and knocked him down, all of this happened on the Selma Avenue side of the SILVERMOON CAFE. As soon as I saw this happening I turned and walked North on Washington Street on my way home.

"The above statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"FLOYD GROOM
1220 DALLAS AVE.
SELMA, ALABAMA

(Signed) "FLOYD GROOM

On 3/10/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233

by SA JOHN J. SWEENEY:gmb Date dictated 3/13/65

MO 44-1233

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"WITNESSES

"F. R. LA PORTE
WILLIAM WARE."

Date 3/13/65

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FLOYD GROOM, 1212 Dallas Avenue, Selma, Alabama, employed at Campbell Welding Company, Green Street, Selma, was interviewed at the Selma Police Department in the presence of Lt. DANIEL P. KNIGHT. He furnished the following information:

GROOM stated that he is a close personal friend of ELMER L. COOK, O'NEAL HOGGLE, STANLEY HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY. GROOM stated he is unwilling under any circumstances to testify in court against any of these individuals and if subpoenaed to testify, he will deny all information furnished by him. Reluctantly with many changes in his story, he furnished the following account of his activities on the afternoon and evening of March 9, 1965. During the late afternoon of Tuesday, March 3, he was drinking beer in the Silver Moon Cafe located at the corner of Washington Street and Selma Avenue in Selma. Also in the Cafe were ELMER COOK, STANLEY and O'NEAL HOGGLE and possibly R. B. KELLY. GROOM was unable to identify other customers in the Cafe at that time except an individual known to him as JACK RIDDLES. There was conversation about the racial situation in Selma and GROOM heard a red headed fellow, whom he could not further identify, make a statement to the effect that ELMER COOK had a set of "brass knucks" in his pocket, but GROOM did not see them. He also heard a statement made sometime that afternoon by JACK RIDDLES to the effect that these individuals also had a stick but he did not see this.

Shortly before dark GROOM left the Silver Moon Cafe and observed an old model station wagon or carry-all parked in front of the Cafe. It is his best estimate that this was about a 1946 or 1947 green Chevrolet. He recalled that the windows went all the way back on the sides of the car. Seated in the front seat of the car were two men, thought by GROOM to be Negroes. A blonde headed young girl was seated between them. GROOM stared at them and was irritated by the presence of the white girl with what he thought were Negro men. The girl laughed at him and rolled up the car window. In his irritation, GROOM struck the glass of the window with his fist, but did not break the glass. At this point ELMER COOK and STANLEY and O'NEAL HOGGLE came out of the Cafe and observed as the car pulled away from the curb, drove around the block and parked in front of Walker's Cafe about $\frac{1}{2}$ block south of the Silver Moon Cafe. The three occupants of this car then got out and went in Walker's Cafe, which is regarded as a Cafe catering to Negro customers

On 3/12/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lc Date dictated 3/13/65

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only. COOK, GROOM and the HOGGLES watched this activity.

Then GROOM decided to go home and left COOK and the HOGGLES at the Silver Moon. He walked north on Washington Street where he met Lt. D. P. KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department, and engaged in a conversation with him. When he walked on to his home at 1212 Dallas Avenue.

Shortly thereafter he again left his home with the thought of walking back to the Silver Moon Cafe. He approached the Cafe walking south on Washington Street until he reached the northeast corner of the intersection of Washington Street and Selma Avenue across the street from the Silver Moon Cafe at about 7:30 PM. As he approached this corner he could see the front of Walker's Cafe $\frac{1}{2}$ block to the south and noticed three people leave the Cafe and re-enter the same car the window of which he had struck earlier. He believed these were the same passengers that he observed previously in this car. This automobile then turned to its right into an alley running east-west through the middle of the block. A moment later this station wagon appeared on Selma Avenue driving west approaching the rear of the Silver Moon Cafe. Before it reached the Silver Moon Cafe, the station wagon made a left turn and parked headed into a parking lot in the rear of the Silver Moon Cafe.

GROOM was still standing on the corner across the street from the Silver Moon Cafe. At this point he observed ELMER COOK, STANLEY and O'NEAL HOGGLE and another man come out of the front door of the Silver Moon Cafe. At first GROOM believed the 4th man was BEN VARDEMAN, a business associate of ELMER COOK. Later he decided that this individual may have been R. B. KELLY. These four went around the corner of the Silver Moon Cafe and east on Selma Avenue to the point where the Chevrolet station wagon had stopped. As a man got out of the right front door of the station wagon, ELMER COOK struck him with his fist causing him to fall to the ground. GROOM insisted that COOK had no stick or other weapon in his hand unless he was wearing the brass knuckles which GROOM could not see. While COOK was attacking this man, the other individuals went around to the other side of the station wagon where the other two individuals got out. Although GROOM's vision of what occurred on the other side of the station wagon was obstructed by the car, he did note that one of these men was knocked to the ground. The other, who may have been a man or

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a girl wearing slacks, ran east on Selma Avenue and got away. GROOM expresses his conviction that these were the same individuals that he had previously seen in this automobile, at which time one of them was a blonde headed girl. He could not explain why he was certain of this nor how he could be uncertain that the third member of this group was a girl or man. Neither could GROOM make a positive statement that the men were Negroes although he still had that impression and recalled that they had dark skin.

At this point GROOM turned and walked back north on Washington Street, deciding that he did not want to become involved in any difficulty. He is quite certain that he was not seen by COOK and his companions as he observed this incident. He did not see COOK and his companions leave the Chevrolet station wagon and insisted that he did not know what became of the persons who were attacked by them.

GROOM was unable to account for the fact that other reports indicated the assault on JAMES REEB, ORLOFF MILLER and CLARK OLSEN occurred in front of the Silver Moon Cafe on Washington Street rather than on Selma Avenue behind the cafe as he described, nor could he account for how COOK and his companions knew that the occupants of the Chevrolet station wagon would park at this particular place at this particular time. He did make the comment "they were watching" but could or would not offer any further explanation on this opinion. He was very definite in his statement that the altercation did not occur in front of the Silver Moon Cafe on Washington Street.

GROOM was questioned concerning whether or not he had made any statement of an intimidating nature to HELEN MARTIN, waitress, Silver Moon Cafe on the evening of March 11, 1965. He denied making any statement to her accusing her of identifying him as a witness to the altercation but acknowledged that OUIDA LARSON, another waitress at the Silver Moon Cafe, had told him that HELEN MARTIN had identified everyone connected with this matter. GROOM also denied that any attempts to intimidate him had been made but acknowledged that he had engaged in conversation with ELMER COOK earlier in the day of this interview.

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At this point GROOM became uncommunicative and unwilling to discuss the incident further. He was unwilling to furnish any statement or to further elaborate on his observations.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 31, 1965

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FLOYD GROOM was interviewed at 2321 Whittenore, St. Louis, Missouri, where he is residing in a third floor apartment. Mr. GROOM said he had been in St. Louis only a short time and last week had worked as a welder for the Missouri Welding Company, 2937 Chouteau, but was looking for a job today. He said he was not running from anything that had happened in Selma and was prepared to return to Selma at any time that he might be needed there. He said he had planned to move to St. Louis for some time before he actually moved.

With regard to events that occurred during the late afternoon of Tuesday, March 9, 1965, in Selma, Alabama, Mr. GROOM said he had gone to Silver Moon Cafe in Selma early that evening for supper. He said the cafe was full of people; he could not recall who all of them were; but he said ELMER COOK, O'NEAL HOGGLES, STANLEY HOGGLES, R. B. KELLY, and JACK RIDDLES were all there as well as a number of other people. He said they were drinking and generally having a good time. Mr. GROOM said COOK, KELLY, and the two HOGGLES had left the cafe before he, GROOM, departed. GROOM said that when he came out of the cafe it was not yet dark and there was a car, which he described as a "carry all", parked on Washington in front of the cafe. He said the Silver Moon Cafe, where he had eaten, was at the corner of Washington and Selma. Mr. GROOM said the car was dark blue or black in color and had several windows along each side. He said inside the car were two dark complected men and he could not say whether they were negro or white, but sitting between them in the front seat was a white blonde-haired female, and as he approached the car the girl looked at him and laughed as she rolled up the glass on the automobile. He said her laughing at him and rolling up the glass made him mad and he struck the glass of the window with the back of his right hand, but did not break the glass, and did not injure the back of his hand. He said before he walked up to the car it appeared as if the three people in it were planning to get out and go into the cafe, but apparently they changed their mind and drove off. He said they turned the corner off Washington onto Selma and departed

On 3/30/65 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-584
 by SA C. PERSHING BELL and
SA ALBERT J. RUSHING:jc Date dictated 3/30/65

in the direction of Franklin. GROOM said he then went back into the Silver Moon Cafe and sat down with JACK RIDDLES for an estimated 15 minutes, at which time he and RIDDLES left the cafe, walked across Selma Street to where RIDDLES' car was parked, and RIDDLES left him at that point. He said as he and RIDDLES came out of the cafe he again saw the "carry all" that had previously been parked in front of the Silver Moon Cafe turn off Washington into an alley right next to Walkers Cafe, and again was headed in the direction of Franklin. Mr. GROOM said he was about a half block away, never did pay any attention to the license on the car, was certain that there were only three people in it each time, and after it disappeared down the alley he said he did not see it again; that after RIDDLES left him that he walked up Washington to Melton's Service Station at the corner of Washington and Dallas, where he met Captain KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department. He said he talked to Captain KNIGHT for a short time and then went to his home which is just a short distance from Melton's Service Station on Dallas. He said, in fact, Melton's Service Station is at the corner of Dallas and Washington, Spears Cleaners are next to the service station on Dallas, and his home was the house next to Spears Cleaners. Mr. GROOM said when he got home after talking to Captain KNIGHT he did not leave his home again that evening. He said his wife was at home and would confirm that he was there the remainder of the evening.

Mr. GROOM said he did not push or rock any carry all, station wagon, or other vehicle that evening other than striking the glass of the carry all containing the three people as described above.

Photographs of Mr. GROOM were obtained.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 3/13/65

BILLY DOWD EDWARDS, Route 4, Box 94, Selma, Alabama, was interviewed by R. W. HEAD, State Investigator for the State of Alabama, and Special Agent JOHN J. SWEENEY at the Selma Police Department. EDWARDS furnished the following signed statement:

"Date March 10th, 1965 Page No. 1

"STATEMENT OF: BILLY DOWD EDWARDS, white male born 3/27/36

"My name is BILLY DOWD EDWARDS, I live at Route 4 Box 94, Selma, Alabama, I make this statement of my own free will to R. W. HEAD, State Investigator of the State of Alabama, and Special Agent J. J. SWEENEY of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"On Tuesday night March 9th, 1965, I was with R. B. KELLY about 6:30 PM and we went to the SILVERMOON CAFE on Washington Street in Selma, Ala. We sat at a table with CARL SEALY and another man I do not know who the man was. We drank two (2) beers, I guess we stayed about an hour. R. B. KELLY and myself left and went across the street to the COFFEE POT CAFE on Washington Street, we stayed there about 15 minutes, we left there and went to JOE'S PLACE at Jeff Davis and Broad Street, this was about 8:00 PM. We drank one beer and talked about 30 minutes to VERLON THACKER, all three of us left together going back to the SILVERMOON CAFE where we stayed until about 10:00 PM. STANLEY HOGGLE, ELMER COOK, and DUCK HOGGLE came into the SILVERMOON CAFE about 9:00 PM I think, they were drinking heavy, the three of them left the CAFE and came back about 20 to 30 minutes later and sat down in front of us, an old drunk we call 'SMITTY' came in and said I would kill any son of a bitch who would beat him like that, I asked R. B. what happened, he stated some one got hell beat out of him. R. B. left the table but was gone only one or two minutes, I don't know where he went. the

On 3/10/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233

by SA JOHN J. SWEENEY:gmb Date dictated 3/13/65

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man called DUCK told old SMITTY to go on or something, I don't know just what was said.

(Signed) "BILLY DOWD EDWARDS

"BILLY DOWD EDWARDS
RT 4 BOX 94
SELMA, ALABAMA

"WITNESSES:

"R. W. HEAD
JOHN J. SWEENEY, SA, F.B.I., Mobile, Ala."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 13, 1965

1

BILLY DOWD EDWARDS, Route 4, Box 94, Selma, Alabama, telephonically contacted the Selma Resident Agency on the evening of March 12, 1965, and advised that he desired to talk to SAs JAMES MICHAEL BARKO and JOHN J. SWEENEY. An appointment was made to meet EDWARDS at 8 p.m. that evening.

EDWARDS advised that he is convinced that R.B. KELLEY was not involved in the beating of the three white ministers in front of the Silver Moon Cafe in Selma on the evening of March 9, 1965. He advised that the information he previously furnished in a signed statement at the Selma Police Department on March 10, 1965, was true and correct, except for one point. He said that he omitted the fact that while he was at the Silver Moon Cafe, R.B. KELLEY left the table for a short time. He said he did not know where KELLEY went but thought he went to make a telephone call or possibly to the rest room.

EDWARDS said that while KELLEY was gone, he heard some shouting outside the cafe and looked up from the table out the door. He said he observed ELMER COOK and STANLEY HOGGLE running and punching at two or three individuals. He said these individuals "just flashed by" the door of the Silver Moon Cafe and added that he did not get up from the table and did not see them further. EDWARDS advised that R.B. KELLEY returned to the table shortly after and was not breathing hard and showed no signs of having been involved in any fight.

EDWARDS also recalled that there was a white male named W.D. (LNU) who was in the Silver Moon Cafe and ran outside as soon as the shouting started. He said he believed that W.D. could furnish information as to the individuals involved in the fight. EDWARDS said W.D. is employed at the lawn mower factory in Selma. He also advised that SPENCER CUMMINGS, City Barber Shop, used to go with the sister of W.D.

EDWARDS also informed that on the afternoon of March 9, 1965, he was in the Cadillac owned by ELMER COOK. He said COOK was driving the car and STANLEY HOGGLE was in the front seat with him.

On 3/12/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs JAMES MICHAEL BARKO and
JOHN J. SWEENEY/kzh Date dictated 3/13/65

He said that a man named "BILL (LNU)" was sitting in the left rear and EDWARDS himself was in the right rear. EDWARDS said that STANLEY HOGGLE had a .38 caliber revolver stuck in his trousers and a smaller pistol in his pants pocket. He said STANLEY HOGGLE also gave a night stick or club to COOK. EDWARDS also said that COOK was driving the car and had a pair of brass knuckles on his right hand. He said they were driving around Selma and EDWARDS was blowing a bugle at any of the ministers and "other outsiders" that they saw on the streets.

EDWARDS refused to furnish a signed statement but said he was willing to testify in court to the information he furnished on March 10 and 12, 1965.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 13, 1965

1

EDGAR WILTON STRIPLING, Room 6, Gordon's Cafe, Selma, Alabama, was interviewed at the Selma Police Department by Lieutenant D.P. KNIGHT in the presence of SAs JOHN J. SWEENEY and JAMES MICHAEL BARKO and furnished the following signed statement:

"Date March 10th, 1965 Page No. 1

"STATEMENT OF: EDGAR WILTON STRIPLING, white male, born 9-12-17

"My name is EDGAR STRIPLING, I am 47 years old and I live in a room at GORDONS CAFE. I am making this statement of my on free will to Lieutenant D.P. KNIGHT, SR. of the Selma Police Department concerning a fight I witnessed on the street outside the SILVERMOON CAFE on the corner of Selma Avenue and Washington Street, this was in the early part of the night of March 9th, 1965.

"I was inside the SILVERMOON CAFE looking outside a window that faces Washington Street, when I saw ELMER COOK hit an unknown WHITE MAN with his fist, I also saw R.B. KELLEY who was with ELMER COOK start to push or hit the man ELMER COOK was hitting, ELMER and R.B. were following the man and turned right on Selma Avenue still fighting. The man they were hitting had his arms up trying to protect himself, the man was either pushed or knocked down out of my view as they passed the window I was looking out of. After they passed the window I did not see them any more.

"This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and was made of my own free will.

"/s/ Edgar W. Stripling

"EDGAR WILTON STRIPLING
ROOM No. 6
GORDONS CAFE
SELMA, ALABAMA

On 3/10/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs JAMES MICHAEL BARKO and
JOHN J. SWEENEY/kzh Date dictated 3/13/65

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"Witnessess:

/s/ D.P. Knight

/s/ John J. Sweeney, SA, FBI, Mobile, Ala.

/s/ James Michael Barko, SA, FBI, Mobile, Ala."

Date 3/13/65

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EDGAR WILTON STRIPLING, interviewed at the Federal Building, Selma, Alabama, furnished the following signed statement:

"Selma, Alabama
March 12, 1965

"I, Edgar Wilton Stripling, make the following free and voluntary statement to Victor B. Snider and Chilton B. Creason who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I am 47 years old and live in a room over Bill Gordon's Cafe at Washington Street and Selma Avenue, Selma, Ala. I work in the Silvermoon Cafe for Pete Lakeos at the same corner.

"On Tuesday night, March 9, 1965 at about eight o'clock I was standing behind the counter at the front end of the Silvermoon Cafe when something caused me to look out the front window onto Washington Street. I do not know just what caused me to look outside. On the sidewalk right in front of the window I saw Elmer Cook hitting a man with his fists. I did not recognize the man he was hitting. I saw Elmer Cook strike several hard blows with his fists on this man's face and body causing him to fall to the sidewalk. The man being hit did not fight back, but was covering his head and face with his upraised arms. I also saw R. B. Kelly standing there and another man who looked like Duck Hoggle. I didn't notice anyone else in the group, although other men may have been around the corner or out of my view. I could not see any stick or weapon in the hands of any of the men.

"After Elmer Cook landed several blows, the man fell to the sidewalk and disappeared from my view. When he fell, I noticed R. B. Kelly, and Cook and the other man who looked like Duck Hoggle all gather around the fallen man, leaning over him. It looked like R. B. Kelly swung his foot and kick the man two or three times. I saw the man who looked like Duck kick at the man one or two times. I did not see Elmer Cook kick the man after he fell.

On 3/12/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lr Date dictated 3/13/65

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"Then I saw Elmer Cook pursuing a man around the corner. I could not tell whether or not it was the same man that I had just seen fall. When they went around the corner on Selma Avenue they disappeared from my view. R. B. Kelly and the man who looked like Duck Hoggle did not follow Elmer Cook around the corner, or had not as I turned away and went down to the cash register and told Mrs. Lackeos and told her that there was a fight outside. She told me to let it alone and not to do anything about it.

"About ten or fifteen minutes later R. B. Kelly, Elmer Cook, the man who looked like Duck Hoggle and another man I did not know came in the cafe almost together. By this I mean I could not be sure they were together but they came in at the same time. They were laughing and talking but I could not hear what they said.

"R. B. Kelly sat at a table near the door with two men I did not know. Cook and the other two men went to a table at the rear between the juke box and the cigarette machine. I do not know what they talked about there. I did not see Smitty come in and talk to any of them.

"A few minutes later Mrs. Lackeos asked me to look outside for a policeman, but she didn't tell me why she wanted one. I went outside and walked to Broad Street and down toward the river. I didn't see a policeman, so I returned and told Mrs. Lackeous. She said that it was all right, that they had already left. She didn't say who had left. At that time R. B. Kelly, Elmer Cook and their companions were gone. I do not know of any other customers in the cafe when the trouble happened, although other people I did not know were there.

"I never did see the man or men who were being hit any more and I would not be able to recognize them. I do not know whether or not I would be able to recognize the third man I saw at the table with Elmer Cook if I saw him again.

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"I have read this statement in it_a is true and correct_

"/s/ Edgar Stripling

"Witnessed:

/s/ C. B. Creason, Special Agent, FBI, Mobile, Ala. 3/12/65

/s/ Victor B. Snider, Special Agent, FBI, Mobile, Ala. 3/12/65."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 3/23/65

EDGAR WILTON STRIPLING residing in a room over BILL GORDON's Cafe at Washington Street and Selma Avenue, Selma, Alabama, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He advised that he joined the 167th Infantry, U. S. Army, in 1939, and was discharged June 8, 1942. The reason for his discharge was due to the fact he had stiffness in joints in both elbows and in his knees. He received treatment in the Lawson General Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia, about one year after his discharge and stayed there for about six months.

He was also treated at Veterans Administration Hospital, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and was confined to this hospital from 1949 to 1957. In 1959 he reported to Veterans Administration Regional Office, Montgomery, Alabama, and was afforded physical examination by their office at this time. He did not state where this physical was given.

He stated that his military service number is 20416507 and that he is receiving monthly disability checks in amount of \$78.75 at the present time.

STRIPLING after viewing six photographs of different individuals among which group were included the photographs of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, Selma Police Department Number 11214; R. B. KELLY, photograph taken March 10, 1965, by Bureau Agents which reflects KELLY dressed in sport shirt, wearing sweater; WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, photograph taken March 10, 1965, by Bureau Agent, which reflects HOGGLE wearing striped sport shirt and a sport jacket; and photograph of ELMER L. COOK, taken March 10, 1965, by Bureau Agent, depicting COOK wearing dark suit, white shirt and tie, stated that he identified photograph of COOK and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE as individuals who participated in the attack on a white individual on the evening of March 9, 1965, outside the Silver Moon Cafe. He was unable to identify any of the other photographs which were displayed to him as persons participating in this attack.

On 3/19/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA RYMOND L. BECK and
SA PAUL M. CONRAD/mjr/lr Date dictated 3/19/65

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Among these photographs were the photographs of Reverend CLARK OLSEN and Reverend ORLOFF MILLER and after viewing these two photographs he advised he was unable to identify them.

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

RG: 65 Federal Bureau of Investigation

SERIES:

NND PROJECT NUMBER: 50873

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WITHDRAWAL DATE: 11/20/2008

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ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

FOLDER TITLE: 44-HQ-28441 110-120 Section 4

DOCUMENT DATE: 04/05/1965 DOCUMENT TYPE: Report

FROM:

TO:

SUBJECT: 44-28441-110 (page 100)

The original version of this document has been withdrawn. Attached is a copy of the original with portions deleted for the following reason(s):

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

Screened

By: Searcher2

Date:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/5/651

Mr. JOHN CHAPMAN, Contacts Officer, Veterans Administration, Regional Office, Montgomery, Alabama, telephonically advised as follows:

EDGAR W. STRIPLING, white, male, born September 12, 1917, United States Army Serial Number 204 16 506, VA Number C 30-63-557, served in the United States Army from November 25, 1940, to July 25, 1941. He re-enlisted July 28, 1941, and served until June 8, 1942, at which time he received an honorable discharge. He was found to be physically disabled due to a chronic arthritic condition.

In 1950, STRIPLING was found to be permanently and totally disabled due to a condition described as [REDACTED]. He was further described as being 100 per cent incompetent. This condition was found to be non-service connected.

According to the file, STRIPLING remains in same condition at the present.

FOIA(b)6
FOIA(b)7 - (C)

On 4/5/65 at Montgomery, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SA DAN STEPHENS/jsw Date dictated 4/5/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 18, 1965

1

GEORGE H. HAMM was contacted at the Southland Mower Company on Old Montgomery Road and advised that he resides at 2540 Alabama Avenue and is a night watchman for this company.

He stated that during the evening of March 9, 1965, he was in the area of the 100 block of Washington Street in Selma attempting to make a long distance telephone call to his brother in Montgomery, Alabama to inquire about his mother who was ill. He stated that earlier in the evening, time unrecalled, he had attempted to use the telephone in the Silver Moon Cafe but experienced some trouble and could not get his call through. He later stopped by the Coffee Pot Cafe across the street from the Silver Moon where he had a cup of coffee and passed the time of day with the owner, BEN VARDAMAN. He stated that he walked west on Selma Avenue to Broad Street where he again attempted to put his call through but could not get an operator to answer in Montgomery. He said he then returned toward the Silver Moon Cafe and upon reaching the corner of Washington Street at a position in front of the Pawn Shop directly across the street from the Silver Moon Cafe, he suddenly saw a group of men attack a smaller group of men right at the corner of the building in which the Silver Moon Cafe is located. He stated that as close as he can place the time it must have been a few minutes before or after 8 p.m. He stated that he could not immediately see what occurred until he saw three to five men disperse from the area of the scuffle and seem to scatter in all directions. He said he saw no club or weapon of any kind and the next thing he knew he saw two men on the ground by the Silver Moon Cafe, however he did not see them fall and did not see them being knocked down. As they arose from the sidewalk two of the men helped a third one up and they moved on down Selma Avenue toward Sylvan Street.

Mr. HAMM stated that from the position he was in and as dark as it was he could not tell whether the men involved in the assault were white or Negro and could not identify any of them as anyone he knew.

On 3/16/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/17/65

He stated that he did not see from which direction the attackers came from but feels they were on the same side of Washington Street as the Silver Moon Cafe is located. He stated that the whole affair occurred in approximately two minutes or less and he saw no one standing near him and could not name any other persons who may have observed the assault, however believes that there were other persons around the area. He stated that he would estimate that he had seen VARDAMAN at least one full hour before the assault, when he had had a cup of coffee at the Coffee Pot Cafe. He said he walked toward his automobile in a southerly direction on Washington Street and as he passed the Black and White Taxi Cab Company he mentioned to JAMES MORGAN who was inside the office but coming to the front door that there was a big commotion across the street. He said MORGAN mentioned something to the effect that he had heard the commotion but had not seen it.

HAMM stated that as he approached his car just past the Black and White Cab Stand he noticed from 8-15 white and colored people come out of Walker's Cafe, walk north on Washington Street, turning the corner at the Silver Moon Cafe and walk on down towards Sylvan Avenue. He said this group must have passed the Silver Moon twenty minutes or more after the assault.

Photographs of R.E. KELLEY, ELMER L. COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE were displayed to Mr. HAMM and he stated that he knows all of them by sight having seen them in the general area over the past two years but never knew them by name and could not identify them as being persons who participated in the assault.

He reiterated that the light at that time of day was so poor that he does not believe he could identify any of the participants in the assault even if he knew them.

HAMM stated that he could not give any description of any of the persons involved and has not heard anything in the way of rumors as to who the assailants were and has had

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only general conversations with various persons in the area revolving around the newspaper accounts.

He stated that he did not see any Negro male around Walker's Cafe with an injured eye and does not know any man called "W.D." He stated further that he has cooperated with and supported law enforcement officers in Selma and desires to help in this matter in any way he can and has furnished all information that he can recall in this matter.

1

HELEN BEVERLY MARTIN, 210 Franklin Street, Selma, Alabama, who has been employed about 6 weeks as a waitress at the Silver Moon Cafe, furnished the following information:

She was on duty at the Silver Moon Cafe on Tuesday night, March 9, 1965. Also working that night in the Cafe were OUIDA LARSON, another waitress, EDGAR STRIPLING, and Mr. and Mrs. PETE LACKEOS, the proprietors. During the early evening Mr. LACKEOS went home for a rest and was relieved by Mrs. LACKEOS. HELEN MARTIN insisted that she neither observed nor heard of any fight or trouble outside of the Silver Moon Cafe that night. She denied hearing any conversation among customers of the Cafe to indicate there had been a fight. At about 8 PM that night, Mrs. LACKEOS asked her to call a taxi cab which she did. At about 8:15 PM when the cab arrived, at the request of Mrs. LACKEOS, HELEN MARTIN went outside to tell JAMES MORGAN, the driver of the Black and White Cab to wait for Mrs. LACKEOS. Just before she called the cab she had observed some men standing outside the Cafe at a car but she did not recognize them. They appeared to be talking and there was no indication of any dispute or disorder.

Upon returning to the Cafe after talking with cab driver JAMES MORGAN, a habitual frequenter of the cafe known only as SMITTY grabbed her by the arm. Earlier Mr. LACKEOS had asked him to leave because he was intoxicated. When HELEN MARTIN asked him to turn her loose, R. B. KELLY who was seated at a table in front of the cafe said "HELEN, he don't have to turn you loose". An argument followed with R. B. KELLY as to whether or not she could tell SMITTY to leave the cafe. Seated with KELLY was some insurance man and some other individuals whose names are unknown to HELEN MARTIN. She could not recall seeing ELMER COOK or O'NEAL or STANLEY HOGGLE in the cafe that evening although they are known to her.

Later in the evening, Lt. D. P. KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department came to the Silver Moon and asked her if she knew anything about the "ruckus" at which time she thought he was talking about a dispute which had occurred in the cafe on the previous Saturday night, not knowing that there had been a fight outside the Silver Moon Cafe this night.

On 3/12/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lr Date dictated 3/13/65

HELEN MARTIN was unable to identify by name any other customers in the Silver Moon Cafe on the night of March 9, 1965. She did recall observing a policeman talking to BILL PRUITT and JAMES GOODWIN, outside of the Silver Moon at about 9 PM.

When questioned concerning the possibility that she may have received any threats or intimidations, HELEN MARTIN informed that at about 8:30 PM on March 11, 1965, she received a telephone call at the Silver Moon Cafe when an unidentified woman asked for her by name. During this conversation three different women talked to her in an abusive manner and accused her of being the one who had reported the men who were arrested. They called her a "Negro lover". One of the women also said they were coming down about 9 PM when she gets off and that she would be dead by the next morning. Then they hung up. Immediately after this HELEN MARTIN went to the Selma Police Department and reported the incident to Officer SANDERS and Lt. KNIGHT. Lt. KNIGHT informed her to tell anyone who bothered her to tend to their own business. No one did meet her or molest her when she left the cafe that night.

At about 7:30 or 8:00 PM on March 11, 1965, shortly after she received the anonymous telephone call, FLOYD GROOM and his girl friend were seated in a booth at the Silver Moon Cafe. The girl called HELEN MARTIN to their booth where FLOYD GROOM accused her of being the one who identified him to the police as being present on Tuesday night. He made no threat to her at that time, however, she called Lt. KNIGHT at the Police Department and he told her to inform GROOM to mind his own business. She did so inform GROOM. HELEN MARTIN denied that she was withholding any information because of fear she would be harmed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/18/65

1

HELEN BEVERLY MARTIN, 210 Franklin Street, Selma, Alabama, former waitress at the Silver Moon Cafe in Selma, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

She was on duty at the Silver Moon Cafe on Tuesday night, March 9, 1965. Her regular working hours were between 11 AM and 9 PM. Around 7:30 PM, evening of March 9, 1965, she recalled that R. B. KELLY was in the Silver Moon Cafe sitting at a table with two other men. She recalled that one of these men is employed with an insurance company, maybe the Mutual Life, located in Selma. She could not remember anything about the other man except he was wearing a cowboy hat. She could not furnish the names of these two individuals who were sitting at the table with R. B. KELLY and the only description she could furnish was that they were about 26 or 27 years of age.

Although she previously stated that EIMER L. COOK and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE were not at the Silver Moon Cafe on March 9, 1965, she now recalls seeing them there between 8 and 8:30 PM, March 9, sitting at a table with two women.

She stated there was a large crowd in the Silver Moon Cafe that evening and she believed that all the tables and booths were occupied. At 8 PM, she went outside to the Black and White Cab Company located across the street from the Silver Moon Cafe on Washington Street at the request of Mrs. CUOLA LACKEOS, whose husband owns and operates the Silver Moon to reserve a cab to take Mrs. LACKEOS home. About 5 minutes later, JAMES MORGAN, cab driver for Black and White Cab Company, pulled up along side the cafe on Washington Street at which time Mrs. LACKEOS came out of the cafe and left in the cab. MARTIN stated when she went outside to call for a cab for Mrs. LACKEOS, she did not see any disturbance whatsoever and to her everything seemed to be normal. She advised she does not know the people who patronize the Silver Moon Cafe due to the fact that she has been in Selma, Alabama, only 6 weeks and is not acquainted with all of the customers by name. She further advised that she could not recall definitely if Mr. PETE LACKEOS owner of the Silver Moon Cafe was present during the time she was on duty or whether he went home to rest and relax as he normally does between the approximate hours of 6 and 8 PM.

On 3/18/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA RAYMOND L. BECK and
SA PAUL M. CONRAD/lc Date dictated 3/18/65

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She could not furnish any information as to who may have been involved in the assault on the white ministers which took place in the vicinity of the 100 block of Washington Street, Selma, Alabama.

Date 3/14/651

OUIDA A. LARSON, 201 Alabama Avenue, Selma, Alabama, who has been employed for about two months as a waitress at the Silver Moon Cafe advised that she was working on Tuesday night, March 9, 1965, but denied that she had any knowledge of any fight or incident occurring outside the Cafe that night. She insisted that she heard no unusual noises from the street and that she did not hear any customers or persons in the cafe talking about any fight until Lt. DANIEL P. KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department arrived asking questions concerning some trouble which had occurred outside. LARSON denied that she could recall the names of any customers at the cafe that night. She stated that she could not remember whether or not ELMER COOK, STANLEY or O'NEAL HOGGLE or R. B. KELLY were present although she knows all these individuals. She further stated that no one had threatened her or intimidated her in any way to keep her from freely discussing any information she might have.

On 3/12/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lis Date dictated 3/13/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 19, 1965

1

OIDA A. LARSON, 201 Alabama Street, Selma, Alabama, was interviewed at her place of employment, the Silver Moon Cafe (SMC), 138 Washington Street and she furnished the following information:

She was on duty as a waitress at the SMC where she has been employed for approximately 2½ months from 2 p.m. to midnight March 9, 1965. She stated that during this time she was not aware of any unusual occurrence in or near the SMC until she was questioned by Lt. DANIEL P. KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department concerning a fight which had taken place in the 100 block of Washington Street that night. LARSON stated that she recalls seeing R.B. KELLY, ELMER L. COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE in the SMC between the hours of about 6:30 to 8 p.m., March 9, 1965, and that KELLY was already in the restaurant when COOK, accompanied by his secretary, JEAN FULLER, and the HOGGLE brothers, arrived. She said that KELLY was at a table with two unknown men one of whom was wearing a western-type hat, however she could furnish no description of these men except to say that they were probably about the same age as KELLY. COOK and those who arrived with him did not sit at the same table with KELLY, however while there she observed that KELLY, COOK and the HOGGLE brothers were drinking beer and FULLER coffee. She could not state the amount of beer consumed by any of those drinking it.

At about 7:30 p.m. COOK, JEAN FULLER and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE left the SMC together. NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and R.B. KELLY remained behind but did not sit at a table together and left separately within about twenty minutes. She was unable to state whether KELLY left with the men with whom he had been sitting, but she did not see KELLY, COOK, FULLER or the HOGGLE brothers the remainder of the evening. She stated she could not recall by name any other customers who were at the SMC on March 9, 1965, except FLOYD GROOM, a local man, his girl friend CLARA (LNU) and a "local drunk, SMITTY", who she remembered because he was a source of annoyance to the customers most of the evening.

On 3/18/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs PAUL M. CONRAD and
RAYMOND L. BECK/kzh Date dictated 3/18/65

In addition to herself one other waitress, HELEN MARTIN, was on duty as well as Mr. and Mrs. PETE Z. LACKEOS, proprietors of the SMC, and EDGAR STRIPLING, who is a general duty employee. To her knowledge Mr. LACKEOS went home sometime between 6 and 8 p.m. for a period of relaxation while Mrs. LACKEOS remained to run the business. Mrs. LACKEOS left by cab when Mr. LACKEOS returned shortly after 8 p.m. STRIPLING's hours are irregular and she could not recall how long he stayed at work or when he left.

LARSON stated that she had no knowledge as to who may have assaulted the ministers in the 100 block of Washington Street, Selma, Alabama, on the night of March 9, 1965.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/14/651

PETE Z. LACKEOS, 804 7th Avenue, Selma, Alabama, proprietor of the Silver Moon Cafe located at Washington Street and Selma Avenue, furnished the following information:

Following his usual custom he went home for a rest leaving the cafe at about 5:30 PM on March 9, 1965, and did not return to work until about 8 PM that evening. During this time his wife relieved him and assumed charge of the cafe. When he returned to the cafe at about 8 PM he did not immediately learn that there had been any fight or trouble in the vicinity. His first knowledge of this was upon the arrival of Lt. D. P. KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department. LACKEOS insisted that he could not mention by name any of the customers who came to the Silver Moon Cafe that night.

Also present at the cafe that night were HELEN MARTIN and OUIDA LARSON, waitresses, as well as EDGAR STRIPLING who does odd jobs around the cafe for his food. LACKEOS explained that STRIPLING is a disabled veteran who is mentally deficient. He informed that little or no reliance could be placed on anything that STRIPLING might say.

On 3/12/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lr Date dictated 3/13/65

Date 3/14/651

CUOLA LACKEOS, also known as Mrs. PETE LACKEOS, 804 7th Avenue, Selma, Alabama, advised that she and her husband operate the Silver Moon Cafe at the intersection of Washington Street and Selma Avenue in Selma, Alabama.

On Tuesday night, March 9, 1965, she went to the cafe at approximately 5 PM to relieve her husband in accordance with their usual practice, so that he could go home and rest for a few hours. She remained at the cafe until he returned shortly before 9 PM. During that time she observed nothing and heard no conversation to indicate that there was a disturbance on the street outside the cafe. She stated that when there is trouble outside it is usual for customers to run out and watch, but that nothing of this nature occurred that evening while she was present. She also denied that EDGAR STRIPLING made any comment to her about a fight going on outside the cafe. For most of the evening she sat at the cash register located toward the rear of the cafe.

Mrs. LACKEOS acknowledged that she is personally acquainted with ELMER COOK, WILLIAN STANLEY HOGGLE and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and with R. B. KELLY. She observed all of them in the cafe shortly before she left at 8:45 PM at which time they were drinking coffee. At that time KELLY was sitting with two other men whose names are unknown to her at a table in the front of the cafe. ELMER COOK and the HOGGLES were seated in the rear of the cafe.

Mrs. LACKEOS informed that during the evening she sent EDGAR STRIPLING to look for a policeman because a man known to her as SMITTY was drinking and was annoying customers at the cafe. He had refused to leave upon being requested to do so and moved from table to table disturbing people. HELEN MARTIN had asked him to leave and he had refused. Shortly later EDGAR STRIPLING returned without a policeman but by this time SMITTY had left the cafe and nothing further was done about this.

It was not until about 1 AM the following morning when her husband arrived at home from the cafe and woke her that she learned there had been trouble outside the cafe during that evening.

On 3/12/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lr Date dictated 3/13/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/22/65

1

MORRIS KENNETH PERRY, Age 26 years, home address 2520 Water Street, Selma, furnished the following information:

He frequents the cafes on Washington Street regularly, visiting mainly the Coffe Pot Cafe, Silver Moon and Carter's Drug Store. He recalls distinctly visiting this area on Washington Street at approximately 6:00 or 6:30 p.m., March 9, 1965, and remaining there until approximately 10:00 p.m. He believes that on this particular evening, he spent the entire time in the Coffee Pot Cafe.

PERRY knows R.B. KELLY, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, and ELMER L. COOK well from having seen them in the Selma Avenue - Washington Street area, talking with them and drinking with them. He stated that he did not see any assault during the entire period of time he was there on March 9, 1965, and that he did not hear any assault taking place. He related that the first time he had heard of such an assault was during the next day at work.

PERRY feels certain that he saw "DUCK" HOGGLE and R.B. KELLY at the Coffee Pot Cafe sometime during the evening of March 9, 1965, but could not state the exact time. PERRY does not recall seeing BEN VARDAMAN at the cafe. He knows VARDAMAN to be the owner of the cafe.

PERRY is certain that he did not drink any alcoholic beverages during the night of March 9, 1965, but could furnish only the names of the waitresses at the cafe as individuals he recalls seeing in addition to HOGGLE and KELLY.

PERRY left the Coffee Pot Cafe sometime around 10:00 p.m., walked to the Black and White Taxi Cab stand, got a cab and went home. While he was at the taxi stand, he recalls seeing MACK JACKSON and CHARLES GEDDY hanging around the taxi stand. Prior to leaving for home, PERRY recalls seeing a group of approximately 25 individuals, both white and colored, leaving the Walker's Cafe, walk toward the Silver Moon Cafe, turn right onto Selma Avenue and walk down that block.

On 3/19/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD A. HARDOCK and
RICHARD BUCARO/jsw/kzh Date dictated 3/22/65

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It was noted that PERRY was exceptionally nervous during this interview and stated that he did not see anything, that he did not want to become involved in any racial matters. He would furnish no further information in regard to this matter.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 30, 19651

Mr. MORRIS PERRY, 2520 Water Street, was recontacted, at which time he stated that he recalls now that on the night of March 9, 1965, he left the Silver Moon between 10 and 10:30 P.M., and recalls no further information regarding the assault of three ministers that evening.

He stated that he has not spoken with R. B. KELLY, the HOGGLE brothers or ELMER COOK since the assault and has heard no conversation about the assault.

PERRY stated that he would hesitate to tell the FBI anything at all that he may hear about this case, as he does not want to see anyone get into trouble and also that he would rather keep himself completely out of the matter.

On 3-29-65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
RICHARD A. HARDOCK:bah/kg Date dictated 3-29-65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 23, 1965

1

Mr. BASIL HOUSTON SMITH was interviewed at the Selma, Alabama Police Department, at which time he stated he is also known as "SMITTY", residence the Old South Tourist Court, and employment with Mr. C.E. CAMPBELL as a roofer.

He stated during March 9, 1965, he had been drinking and at approximately 3:30 p.m. went to the Silver Moon Cafe with an unknown man. Mr. LACKEOS, the proprietor, did not sell him anything to drink because he was already drunk.

He said he recalled that some man pushed him in front of ELMER COOK's place, the C & C Novelty Company, and told him to shut up, claiming SMITH had called him an S.O.B. SMITH said he did not know who the man was and could not identify a photograph of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE as being this man and stated that he does not know HOGGLE.

He stated that, however, he knows R.B. KELLY, ELMER COOK and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE as men he has seen hanging around the places in the vicinity of the intersection of Washington and Selma Avenue. He denied seeing any of the four men named above around the Silver Moon Cafe during the evening of March 9, 1965. He claims he was drunk and does not recall being inside or outside the Silver Moon Cafe or seeing any commotion or assault there later that evening.

He did recall walking past the Black and White Cab Stand sometime during the evening and speaking with someone there but could not recall whether it was JAMES MORGAN or MAC JACKSON or just who was in the cab stand. He said he did not recall having any conversation with a waitress in the Silver Moon Cafe and does not know any of the evening waitresses by name.

He said he did not hear of the assault on the three ministers until the next evening when someone around that area, name unknown, told him about it. He said he has no information and has not heard anyone say who was involved in the assault and he was unable to identify

On 3/23/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/23/65

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photographs of Rev. MILLER or Rev. OLSEN as anyone he has seen.

He stated that he has the reputation of being a "drunk" but he is known to be a good worker when sober. He stated that he served in the United States Army, having Serial Number 34588176, has a fifth grade education, and received a \$107 per month check from the government in connection with his 50 per cent disability resulting from military service.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/651

SPENCER CUMMINGS, a barber at the City Barber Shop, 216 Broad Street, Selma, Alabama, who resides at 1109 Selma Avenue, Selma, Alabama, advised that on the night of March 9, 1965, he arrived at the Silver Moon Cafe at about 9 p.m. When he arrived, he saw VERLON THACKER sitting alone at a table and joined him. CUMMINGS and THACKER had a couple of beers and then with BILLY EDWARDS left the Silver Moon Cafe at about 10 p.m. and went across the street to the Coffee Pot Cafe where they remained about one hour.

After leaving the Coffee Pot Cafe, CUMMINGS stated he went to the Bamboo Club with BILLY EDWARDS and was there at about 11:00 pm or 12:00 Midnight. CUMMINGS and EDWARDS then left the Bamboo Club about 12:30 a.m. and EDWARDS dropped CUMMINGS off in downtown Selma.

When shown photographs of the subjects, CUMMINGS stated he knew R. B. KELLY by name but knew ELMER COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and NAMON HOGGLE by sight only.

CUMMINGS did not recall having seen any of the subjects on the night of March 9, 1965. CUMMINGS further stated that he saw no incidents and that he heard nothing on the night of March 9, 1965, concerning an assault on three white ministers.

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SAs VICTOR B. SNIDER
and CARL E. BEASON:gmh Date dictated 3/19/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/65

1

WILLIAM D. PRUITT, 801 Lauderdale Street, Selma, Alabama, advised that on the night of March 9, 1965, he was at the Silver Moon Cafe periodically from 5 to 9 p.m. PRUITT left the Silver Moon Cafe several times that evening to go to his boarding house located at 801 Lauderdale Street in an attempt to obtain a room for an unidentified friend whom he met at the Silver Moon Cafe that night. This individual was described as being 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighing 140 pounds, slender build, and having reddish wavy hair. PRUITT did not know how this individual could be located.

PRUITT advised that in addition to going to his boarding house that night he also went to the Coffee Pot Cafe and to Gordon's Cafe but could not remember the times he was in these establishments due to the fact that he was drinking heavily. PRUITT stated that he did witness an incident at the Silver Moon Cafe, which he believes occurred about 7 p.m. Three Negro males and a white woman entered the Silver Moon Cafe and at this time three white males who were already in the Silver Moon Cafe, and whom PRUITT did not know, jumped up and one of these men took a swing at one of the Negroes.

PRUITT stated that the three Negroes and the white woman then left the Silver Moon Cafe and walked toward the Police Station.

PRUITT advised that this was the only incident he observed on the evening of March 9, 1965, and that he heard nothing that night regarding three white men being assaulted.

PRUITT stated he did not know R. B. KELLY, ELMER COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, and NAMON HOGGLE and when shown photographs of the subject, he stated ELMER COOK and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE looked familiar.

On 3/18/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233

by SAs VICTOR B. SNIDER and
CARL E. BEASON:gmb Date dictated 3/19/65

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

RG: 65 Federal Bureau of Investigation

SERIES:

NND PROJECT NUMBER: 50873

FOIA CASE NUMBER: 29727

WITHDRAWAL DATE: 11/20/2008

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TAB: 8

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The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

FOLDER TITLE: 44-HQ-28441 110-120 Section 4

DOCUMENT DATE: 03/19/1965 DOCUMENT TYPE: Report

FROM:

TO:

SUBJECT: 44-28441-110 (page 120)

The original version of this document has been withdrawn. Attached is a copy of the original with portions deleted for the following reason(s):

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

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By: Searcher2

Date:

MO 44-1233

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PRUITT further stated he could not recall seeing any of the subjects on the night of March 9, 1965.

PRUITT also stated that he does not know a

[REDACTED]

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 3/23/65

Mr. JAMES C. GOODMAN, 1529 Range Street, Selma, Alabama, advised that on March 9, 1965, he was at the Silver Moon Cafe from about 4:00 to 4:30 PM. At about 4:30 PM he left the Silver Moon Cafe and went home to get cleaned up. At about 7:30 PM GOODMAN went to the Coffe Pot Cafe and was there about one-half hour. GOODMAN then went across the street to the Silver Moon Cafe and was there from about 8:00 to 10:30 PM. After leaving the Silver Moon Cafe, GOODMAN went home.

GOODMAN advised that on the evening of March 9, 1965, he was alone except for the time he was at the Silver Moon Cafe from 8:00 to 10:30 PM, at which time he was with his brother-in-law, WINSTON SMITH, and WILLIAM PRUITT. GOODMAN stated that while at the Silver Moon Cafe and the Coffe Pot Cafe, he witnessed no incident.

GOODMAN advised that he knows R. B. KELLY but does not know ELMER COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, or NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE. GOODMAN stated that he did not see R. B. KELLY on the evening of March 9, 1965.

GOODMAN said that he might be leaving Selma, Alabama, soon but that he probably could be contacted at Route #2, Frisco City, Alabama.

On 3/22/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SAs VICTOR B. SNIDER and
CARL E. BEASON /bah Date dictated 3/23/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/20/65

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Mr. JACK RIDDLE, 1315 LeGrand, advised that he is a pulpwood worker and sometimes works on a house demolishing crew.

RIDDLE stated that on March 9, 1965, he had been working on a demolishing job on Alabama Avenue in Selma, Alabama, and at approximately 2:30 p.m. he went to the Silver Moon Cafe at Washington Street and Selma Avenue, where he drank beer until approximately 5:00 p.m. He recalled seeing FLOYD GROOM in the cafe around that time but off hand could not recall anyone else he knew there. He stated that he went directly home where he cleaned up, ate supper and around 7:10 p.m. he and his wife went to the hospital to visit his brother, and he never went back to the vicinity of the Silver Moon Cafe that night but returned home and retired.

RIDDLE stated that he occasionally stops at the Silver Moon Cafe and the Coffee Pot Cafe across the street to drink coffee and have an occasional beer. He said he used to be in the used car business and while attending the auto sales at Midfield, Alabama, several years ago he met ELMER COOK, R. B. KELLY and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE at these sales as they were also in the used car business. He stated that he knows NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE by sight only. He said he did not see any of the above four named men during the afternoon of the day on which the assault on some ministers occurred. He said he has not spoken with them recently and had not heard them express their sentiments regarding any racial matters and has never seen any of them in possession of any brass knuckles or club or any other weapon.

RIDDLE stated that he first heard of the assault on some ministers later during the evening of the assault when Lieutenant KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department came to his home, stating there had been an assault on some ministers and a witness had identified RIDDLE as being present in the Silver Moon Cafe when it happened. He said he told Lieutenant KNIGHT of his activities during the

On 3/19/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD BUCARO: mfm Date dictated 3/20/65

RICHARD A. HARDOCK

MO 44-1233

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evening, which KNIGHT verified by speaking with Mrs. RIDDLE and possibly making inquiries at the hospital. He emphatically denied that he was in the vicinity of the Silver Moon Cafe after 5:00 p.m. on the evening of the assault and stated that he did not witness any incidents in the Washington Street area.

RIDDLE stated further that he was not aware that white people were eating in Walker's Cafe and informed that he is sympathetic with the ministers in this case and does not believe in violence of any type for any reason and would not hesitate to tell all he knows about any such incidents.

RIDDLE stated that he has been co-operative with law enforcement agencies in Selma and is personally acquainted with Lieutenant KNIGHT, and he will be alert to learn of any information regarding the subjects or to identify possible eye witnesses and advise Lieutenant KNIGHT of anything he learns.

RIDDLE recalled that the last time he saw ELMER COOK was approximately 2 weeks ago when COOK offered him a sum of money to purchase RIDDLE's automobile and truck, which RIDDLE turned down because the price was too low.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/20/65

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JACK J. DEASON, Route 5, Box 298, New Orrville Road, was interviewed at his place of employment, the Reliable Olds Company, 16 Lawrence Street, Selma, Alabama. He was immediately advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and was advised that any information furnished by him could be used in a court of law. Mr. DEASON furnished the following information:

He advised he is a salesman at the Reliable Olds Company. On March 9, 1965, he reported to work about 8:30 AM, and went about his regular duties for that day. Later that afternoon he picked up SAM SMITHERMAN, who is the brother of JOSEPH SMITHERMAN, Mayor of Selma, and proceeded to the Mayor's office. While at the Mayor's Office, he discussed the purchase of a new automobile by the City. Following this discussion SAM SMITHERMAN and he proceeded to GOODMAN's Used Car Lot and talked with the owner, Mr. SAM GOODMAN about business prospects.

At about 5:30 PM, DEASON took SAM SMITHERMAN home and then proceeded down Summerfield Street stopping at the Big Bear Grocery Store and arrived at his home about 6 PM. Upon arrival he learned from his wife that the Tew Curb Market had called and ordered a truck load of produce which DEASON's father, WOODFIN GRADY DEASON, was bringing in that night from Magnolia Springs, Alabama.

His father arrived at his home about 7 PM and after they had dinner, his father asked him if he would help him deliver a truck load of produce to Tew Curb Market which is located at 2115 Selma Avenue, Selma, Alabama. They then delivered a truck load of produce in a 1960 Ford red and white in color, rear portion of which is enclosed so that large, light-weight produce can be hauled. En route to Tew's Market they proceeded along Selma Avenue and passed the intersection of Selma Avenue and Washington Street at about 7:45 PM. He could not remember if he was stopped at that intersection by the traffic light.

They arrived at Tew's Market a few minutes later and unloaded the produce with his father and Mr. C. E. TEW, owner of Tew Curb Market. While at Tew Curb Market he recalls seeing CECIL BELCHER, who was there to purchase some of the produce

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA RAYMOND L. BECK and
SA PAUL M. CONRAD/lr Date dictated 3/20/65

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MO 44-1233

being delivered by them. After they finished unloading the truck which took about one hour, his father and he returned to his home in the above mentioned pickup truck. During the time they were unloading the produce, he did not leave the area of Tew Market.

DEASON stated his father and he went directly home and again followed Selma Avenue which took them past the intersection of Selma Avenue and Washington Street. He again advised he could not recall if he stopped for the traffic light at this intersection.

When they arrived home at about 9:30 PM or possibly later, his wife advised him that there was a news bulletin on television regarding an attack on white ministers in Selma, Alabama. This was the first he knew of the assault.

He stated that he was not parked outside the Silver Moon Cafe at any time during the evening of March 9, 1965.

The following description of DEASON was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	JACK J. DEASON
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of birth	August 31, 1931
Place of birth	Birmingham, Alabama
Eyes	Gray
Hair	Light brown
Height	5' 11"
Weight	220 lbs.
Build	Heavy
Complexion	Fair
Scars and marks	2" scar on right side of forehead; 1/2" scar on bridge of nose.
Marital status	Married
Wife	BETTY DEASON
Occupation	Salesman
Employment	Reliable Olds Co. 16 Lawrence Street Selma, Alabama

Service # 24-51-7912
Present Address - New Opelville Road, Selma, Ala.
Route 5 Box 298

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MO 44-1233

Children
Military service

Service Number
Education

Present address

Home Phone #
Arrest record

Son, 6 years of age
Served in the Army from January 16,
1951, to December 5, 1953, and
received an honorable discharge
24-51-9912
Completed High School at
Mapleville, Alabama
Route 5, Box 298,
New Orriville Road, Selma, Alabama
874-8705
Arrested for speeding by Selma
Police on Dallas Avenue, Selma,
in October, 1964. Fined \$14.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 13, 19651

CARL SEELE, Jr., Box 561, Selma, Alabama, stated on March 9, 1965, between 7 and 7:30 p.m. he went to the Silver Moon Cafe when he arrived from the La Porte T.V. Repair Service where he had been from 5:30 to 7 p.m. He noticed a Volkswagen station wagon on Washington Street facing the Silver Moon Cafe.

While at the Silver Moon he saw R.B. KELLEY and a man named BILL (LNU). This man named BILL left about 15 minutes before SEELE.

SEELE heard no noises or disturbances during his stay of about 45 minutes at the cafe. About 20 minutes after arriving he was asked by a person in the bar to go to the door and call outside for someone. This he did. SEELE said he had two mixed drinks and two beers at the Silver Moon Cafe and while he was drinking R.B. KELLEY mentioned to him something about a "ruckus" outside. This was all SEELE remembered of the incident.

There were 15 to 20 people in the bar including one of the HOGGLE brothers, possibly STANLEY, the bigger of the two. A man named GROOMS was also present, as was a man described as being 5'6", 140-145 lbs., 45-50 years old, wearing a sport shirt and tie, who talked to KELLEY and SEELE at the table.

While R.B. KELLEY was drinking with SEELE, KELLEY left the table for a short while, possibly to answer or make a phone call.

SEELE went directly home and did not see any evidence of an assault outside the Silver Moon Cafe.

On 3/10/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs JOHN J. SWEENEY and
JAMES MICHAEL BARKO/kzh Date dictated 3/13/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/13/651

EARL LEE MELTON, 200 Summerfield Road, manager of the Firestone Retread Shop, 1119 Church Street, both Selma, Alabama, was interviewed at the Federal Building, Selma. At the outset of this interview MELTON expressed a complete unwillingness to furnish any information to Agents unless he had to. He stated that he had no sympathy for the men who were assaulted near the Silver Moon Cafe on the night of March 9, 1965, indicating that he believed they had brought this on themselves. He also commented he believed they "got what they deserved", and he would be unwilling to disclose any information that would be detrimental to the men who had assaulted them. He did acknowledge that he had been at the Silver Moon Cafe on the evening of March 9, 1965, and added that he understood something had taken place just before he had arrived. He stated that he did not know anything about this incident. He also acknowledged that he is a brother-in-law of CARL SEELE who works at the Mutual Savings Life Insurance Company, Selma, Alabama.

On 3/12/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lis Date dictated 3/13/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 30, 1965

Mr. JESSE P. WRIGHT, who is also known as "Slim," was interviewed at his residence, Apartment 1, 528 Alabama Street, and furnished the following information:

WRIGHT stated that he visited the Silver Moon Cafe (SMC) only once on March 9, 1965, and he arrived there at about 11 P.M. He stated that he stayed there about 10 minutes, drank coffee while there and he does not recall anyone else being there at the time. In fact, he is reasonably certain there were no customers in the SMC while he was there. Lt. DANIEL KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department was the only other individual in the cafe and he was talking to the owner, PETE LACKEOS. The two waitresses who ordinarily work at night at the SMC were outside talking and they did not enter the cafe while he was there.

WRIGHT advised he had visited various locations in Selma during the course of the day and that the purpose of his visits throughout the city was to collect on certain accounts for which he had done welding work as he is a welder by trade. He said he also works for the Headley Furniture Company in Selma and spent some time there on March 9, 1965.

WRIGHT advised that to the best of his recollection he did not see any of the subjects during the day or during the evening of March 9, 1965. He is acquainted with all subjects and has known them for several years. He was, in fact, in business with COOK at one time or at least was running a welding shop for him known as the A-1 Welding Shop in Selma which opened in January, 1961. He remained an employee of this company until about the middle of 1962. The business was owned by COOK, E. L. CASEY and BEN VARDAMAN, the latter two of whom are also businessmen in the Selma area. He recalled that CASEY bought out his other two partners in early 1962 and that sometime during the succeeding six months, while he was still employed there, CASEY accused him of embezzling money from the company. He said that at no time had COOK ever

On 3-29-65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs PAUL M. CONRAD and
RAYMOND L. BECK :ka Date dictated 3-30-65

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accused him of embezzling or stealing money from the A-1 Welding Company and, further, that COOK has never even discussed money matters with him nor has he had any arguments with COOK about accounts of the A 1 Company or any other financial matters. He stated that COOK has always treated him right and has never struck him or done him any bodily harm. He realized COOK has the reputation of having been in many fights in the past; however, he has never seen him fight nor does he know him to have or to have used brass knuckles in any fight in which he was involved.

WRIGHT stated that he has seen COOK only about three times since the assault on the white ministers on March 9, 1965, and has seen NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY only once or twice since that time. He stated that none of these individuals has discussed the assault on the white ministers with him. He personally was not involved in the attack, does not know the subjects to have been involved in it and has heard no one mention who might have been involved.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/1/651

Mr. JOSEPH S. SMITH, Washington Street, exact address unknown, was interviewed at his place of employment, the Coca Cola Company, Green and Alabama Streets, and he furnished the following information:

SMITH stated that following his regular tour of duty on March 9, 1965, he left work at about 6:30 p.m., and walked to the Silver Moon Cafe (SMC) in the 100 block of Washington Street. He arrived there at approximately 6:45 p.m. and had coffee and left about 7:00 p.m. He said he walked to his home which is just a few blocks from the SMC.

He advised that during the time he was in the SMC he heard nothing concerning an assault on white ministers nor did he learn anything about any fight which may have taken place in the area of the SMC.

SMITH advised he knows ELMER L. COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE on sight, but R. B. KELLY is unknown to him. He stated the HOGGLE brothers are known to him best because he worked at the Cloverleaf Dairy during part of the time they were employed there. He advised that he did not see any of the above three individuals, with whom he is acquainted, at or near the SMC on the night of March 9, 1965.

SMITH remarked further that he did not learn of the assault on the white ministers until the next day and he has no knowledge of who may have committed the assault.

On 3/31/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SA RAYMOND L. BECK and
SA PAUL M. CONRAD RLB/jsw Date dictated 4/1/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/28/651

PAUL BOIDFORD, 1922 Griffin Street, Selma, Alabama, advised that on the evening of March 9, 1965, he went to the Silver Moon Cafe, located at Washington Street and Selma Avenue, at around 6:30 p.m. and was inside the Silver Moon Cafe for approximately one-half hour. BOIDFORD stated that he had a couple of beers with WINSTON SMITH and JAMES GOODMAN. At approximately 7:00 p.m., BOIDFORD believes he left the Silver Moon Cafe and stood around in front of the Silver Moon Cafe until about 8:30 or 9:00 p.m. During the time that he was standing in front of the Silver Moon Cafe, BOIDFORD stated that he talked to an individual he believed to be an FBI Agent as this individual displayed a badge. BOIDFORD stated that when he left the scene of the Silver Moon Cafe at about 8:30 or 9:00 p.m., he left with FLOYD GROOM.

BOIDFORD advised that during the time he was at the Silver Moon Cafe he witnessed no fight or assault and could furnish no information in regard to an assault of three white ministers.

BOIDFORD further advised that he knows R. B. KELLY, but that he does not know ELMER COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE or NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE. BOIDFORD advised that he did not see R. B. KELLY on March 9, 1965, and he was unable to furnish the names of any other individuals who were present at the Silver Moon Cafe on March 9, 1965.

On 3/24/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs VICTOR B. SNIDER: mfm Date dictated 3/26/65
CARL E. BEASON

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/24/651

WINSTON SMITH, 11 Lily Street, Flamingo Trailer Park, Highway 80 East, Selma, Alabama, furnished the following information:

SMITH advised he was at the Silver Moon Cafe located at Washington Street and Selma Avenue in Selma, Alabama, for about 30 to 40 minutes on the night of March 9, 1965. He further advised he went to the Silver Moon Cafe alone but met his brother-in-law JAMES GOODMAN and also saw MUIT BOTTAFORD (phonetic), an employee of Cleveland Table Factory.

SMITH stated he does not know the time he arrived at the Silver Moon but said not long after his arrival a police officer came to the cafe and questioned customers concerning whether anyone witnessed an attack on some white ministers. SMITH further stated he did not see an assault on anyone and first knew that an assault had occurred when the policeman arrived and began asking questions.

SMITH was displayed photographs of ELMER COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY, and he stated the photograph of R. B. KELLY is familiar but the other persons are unknown to him. SMITH advised he does not know KELLY personally, but has seen him around the Silver Moon Cafe. He also advised he does not remember seeing KELLY in the Silver Moon on March 9, 1965.

SMITH stated he did not see the assault on three white ministers on March 9, 1965, and has heard nothing concerning those who participated in this assault.

On 3/23/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CARL E. REASON/lr Date dictated 3/24/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 17, 19651

JAMES MORGAN was contacted at the Black and White Cab Company, 123 Washington Street, where he stated he is usually dispatcher for this company but on the night of March 9, 1965, he was also driving a cab. He stated that he was at the desk inside of the office and heard a commotion outside and went to the door to look out and saw a crowd of people across the street near the Silver Moon Cafe. He said the telephone rang at that time and he kept looking at the crowd but could not see who was there or what was going on. He said at that moment MAC JACKSON, son of the owner of the cab company who was inside the office also, came to the door while MORGAN went back to answer the telephone. MORGAN stated that he then received a request for a cab and departed immediately driving in the direction away from the Silver Moon Cafe and when he returned the activity was all over with. He stated that JOHN GROVES was another cab driver working that evening but he does not know where he was at the time of the commotion.

MORGAN stated that he has since read in the papers about the assault and of the men arrested for the assault. The only one he knows personally is ELMER COOK.

At this point of the interview MAC JACKSON came out of the taxi cab office, identified himself by name as the owner's son and inquired as to what was going on. Interviewing agents identified themselves to JACKSON whereupon he began making statements such as, "God made two races and did not intend for them to mix and I go along with the Bible in such matters". He also expressed displeasure with outsiders coming into Selma and trying to tell people how to run things.

The interview with MORGAN was terminated at this point.

On 3/15/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD A. HARDOCK and
RICHARD BUCARO/kzh Date dictated 3/17/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 17, 1965

1

JAMES MORGAN was recontacted at his residence, 109 Lakeview Street, at which time he stated that he has been driving for the Black and White Taxi Cab Company for about eight months and during this time has come to know ELMER COOK by sight. He said COOK runs the C & C Novelty Company located near the Black and White Taxi Cab Company. He identified the photograph of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE as a man he has seen around the area of Washington Street but has never spoken with him. He was unable to identify the photograph of WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE as any man he has seen around that area, however identified the photograph of R.B. KELLY as a person he has seen in the area but did not know him by name.

MORGAN stated that during the early evening of March 9, 1965, he was answering the telephone inside the cab company office and believes possibly he heard somebody walk past the front door who may have said that a fight was going on outside. He said he looked out of the door and saw a group of people standing in front of Walker's Cafe and several more people, number unknown, standing in front of the Silver Moon Cafe. He said he estimated there were 15-20 people scattered up and down the block at various locations on both sides of the street but he cannot recall who they were. He said as far as the groups standing in front of the cafes, they were just crowds of people whom he looked at without specifically trying to identify any of them and does not recall that he recognized a single person in the crowds. He stated in fact his attention was mostly on those persons standing in front of Walker's Cafe because that was the larger crowd and he was expecting to see a fight because he considered that place to be where trouble was more likely to happen as white people had gone to a Negro restaurant. He said he had seen various white people going to Walker's Cafe throughout the day. He stated that his telephone was ringing while he was looking out the door and since he saw no action, only people milling about, he went back in and answered the phone and had to go on a call to pick up a customer. He stated that he cannot place the time of the occurrence of the commotion and cannot

On 3/16/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233by SAs RICHARD A. HARDOCK and
RICHARD BUCARO/kzh Date dictated 3/17/65

recall who the passenger was which he picked up. He said as he drove off there were people still in front of the Silver Moon and Walker's Cafe but he saw no one lying on the sidewalk and he saw no one who appeared to be hurt. He recalled that while the phone was ringing MAC JACKSON came and looked out of the doorway but knows that there was no action at that time.

MORGAN stated that the only persons he can recall seeing were SMITTY and BUBBA KYNDARD, who are both "winos" and were intoxicated and this was some time before the commotion when they walked past the front of the cab stand. He said that KYNDARD is the uncle of the woman named FRANCES who is manager of the Coffee Pot Cafe during the morning hours.

He stated that BEN VARDAMAN, owner of the Coffee Pot Cafe, is usually around in the mornings rather than the evenings and he could not recall whether VARDAMAN was around the area during the assault.

He stated that some persons who are usually around every evening at that time are MORRIS PERRY, who is stock clerk at Baggett Transfer Company; CORA SMITH and another waitress, name unknown, who work in the Coffee Pot Cafe.

MORGAN stated that he does not recall having taken Mrs. LACKEOS, owner of the Silver Moon Cafe, to her residence during the evening of the assault, however she has utilized his cab many other nights for a ride home and he has no recollection that he has ever spoken with Mrs. LACKEOS about the trouble in front of the Silver Moon Cafe.

MORGAN said he has a lot of Negro friends as well as white friends in the Selma area and he has tried not to become involved in any racial disputes. He said he has never refused cab service to a Negro and carry them like any other passenger. He said he has heard a lot of people discussing this matter regarding Rev. REEB and he has heard no sympathy expressed for

REEB in the Washington Street area and has heard no one mention that they had seen the assault or know any other persons who may have seen it. He stated that according to the rumors there were three or four men involved in the assault of the ministers and some rumors say four or five men. He stated that he has never had any conversations with ELMER COOK other than possibly to say hello and can furnish no other information regarding this matter.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date March 23, 1965

WILLIAM E. GORDON, operator of Gordon's Cafe and Gordon's Rooming House, 1117 Selma Avenue, advised that he is a Special Police Officer of the Selma Police Department.

He stated that during the evening of March 9, 1965, he was working in his cafe as were his wife, Mrs. GORDON, waiter DONALD BENTLEY, and waitress JOSIE DU BOSE, who were all definitely there between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. He stated that he could not recall specifically the names of any customers who were there during that evening and denied that he heard any commotion outside or saw anything of an assault committed upon three white men in the Silver Moon Cafe which is diagonally across the intersection from his place of business.

He stated that he knows ELMER COOK, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY, some of whom are businessmen around town. He stated that they are not regular customers of his and do not come into the cafe more than once or twice a year.

He stated that he has not heard anything regarding what happened at the assault or who may have participated in it and the first he heard of the assault was around 9:30 p.m. that evening when Lieutenant KNIGHT of the Selma Police Department, who is a good friend of his, came in the cafe to see what he could tell about the assault.

Mr. GORDON said he recalls seeing COOK around the area of Washington and Selma Streets during the day but COOK is around that vicinity most of the time as he operates a business, the C & C Novelty Company, across from the Silver Moon Cafe.

He stated that he has had no conversation whatever with any of the four subjects since the assault.

He stated he has seen numerous white people who are in Selma in connection with the demonstrations go into Walker's

On 3/22/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA RICHARD A. HARDOCK and
SA RICHARD BUCARO RB/mjr Date dictated 3/23/65

MO 44-1233

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Cafe, a Negro cafe, for the past two months or so, but has never heard of any trouble in connection with that.

He said he knows BEN VARDAMAN as owner of the Coffee Pot Cafe and Pawn Shop and likewise sees him numerous times throughout the day in that area.

GORDON said he has had general conversation with various unrecalled persons in the area but so far he has not spoken with anyone who had any information about the assault. He stated that he believes the assault should not have occurred and that he has no sympathy whatever for the subjects and has refused to contribute to a fund being raised for their defense.

Mr. GORDON said that none of the demonstrators, either colored or white, have come to his cafe for service and that he has no interest whatever in whether or not white people are going to Walker's Cafe and could not identify any of those persons going there to eat.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/24/651

Mrs. WILLIAM E. GORDON, manager, Gordon's Cafe, Washington Street and Selma, Avenue, Selma, Alabama, advised she was working at Gordon's Cafe during evening of March 9, 1965. She further advised she did not see the assault on three white ministers which occurred at Silver Moon Cafe located across the street from Gordon's Cafe. She also advised she heard no discussions concerning this assault from customers in the cafe.

GORDON was displayed photographs of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, ELMER COOK and R. B. KELLY, and she advised COOK and KELLY are known to her from their working in the area of Washington Street and Selma Avenue. GORDON stated she does not know these men personally, but only on a casual basis, and she was unable to furnish any information as to their background or associates.

GORDON advised she does not recall seeing any of these men on March 9, 1965, and could furnish no information regarding the assault.

On 3/23/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CARL E. BEASON/lb Date dictated 3/24/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 23, 1965

1

Mr. DONALD D. BENTLEY advised he has been a waiter at Gordon's Cafe during the past five to six months and resides in Room 12 at Gordon's Rooming House.

He stated that during the night of the assault on the three white men in the front of the Silver Moon Cafe, he was working behind the rear part of the counter of Gordon's Cafe from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. and was not in any position to see or hear anything that may have happened at the intersection that evening.

He said it was not until the next morning that he heard from someone, name unrecalled, that three or four men had beaten up three or four white ministers by the Silver Moon Cafe or in the alley behind the Silver Moon Cafe.

He said he did not hear any commotion whatever or any persons calling taunts to other persons on the street that evening and recalled that by 7:30 p.m. most of the dinner customers had gone and there were not many people in the Cafe and no more than a usual number of people on the street as far as he knew.

BENTLEY said he has lived in Selma since 1921 and knows the HOGGLE brothers, COOK, and KELLY just to speak to but does not consider any of them to be friends of his. He said he usually sees them around the intersection of Washington Street and Selma Avenue all of the time but does not recall seeing them the evening of the assault. He said also BEN VARDAMAN is usually around but he also is around, in and out most of the time.

BENTLEY said he has not spoken with the four subjects since the assault and has heard very little conversation about it and said that it seems to him like the local people are "not talking much about it," and believes they are keeping their mouths shut for fear of getting involved in it.

On 3/22/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SA RICHARD A. HARDOCK and
SA RICHARD BUCARO RB/mjr Date dictated 3/23/65

MO 44-1233

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He said he has not been close enough to Walker's Cafe to identify any of the white people who have been going there recently but has only seen them from a distance. He said he knows they are all strangers as no local white people ever go there and no colored people have come to Gordon's for service.

He stated that he believes the assault of the three ministers was wrong and would not hesitate to tell anything he knew about it.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 3/24/65

JOSIE MAE DuBOSE, 106 Mechanic Street, Selma, Alabama, advised that on the night of March 9, 1965, she was working as a waitress at Gordon's Cafe located at 1117 Selma Avenue. She advised that on that night she witnessed no incident or assault involving three white ministers. She further advised that she knows R. B. KELLY and that she knows WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE by sight only but she did not see either of these individuals on March 9, 1965. DuBOSE knew nothing of the assault and advised she could provide no information concerning it.

On 3/23/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SA CARL E. BEASON and
SA VICTOR B. SNIDER /bah Date dictated 3/24/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/65

1

Mr. JOHN CRAVIS GROVES, 2502 Water Street, advised that he has been a cab driver for the Black and White Cab Company during the past 4 - 5 months and works on the 6:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m. shift.

GROVES stated that during the evening when three ministers were assaulted at the Silver Moon Cafe, he could not recall his own activities and did not see any commotion. He stated that he was at the cab stand and going on passenger runs in and out all evening and believes that if there had been any commotion while he was in the area he would have seen it and therefore can only assume that he must have been away on a run when the commotion occurred.

GROVES said he first heard that there had been an assault when "SMITTY" (LNU) came by that evening late and said there had been a fight in front of Walker's Cafe. He stated that he cannot be absolutely certain that it was "SMITTY" who told him of the fight but believes it was, because he did not ask him for any further details because "SMITTY" was drunk that night.

GROVES identified a photograph of ELMER COOK as a man he has seen in the Coffee Pot Cafe a few times but never knew him by name. He was unable to identify the photographs of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY.

GROVES stated that as he recalls, that same evening, in addition to himself, MACK JACKSON and JAMES MORGAN were also working at the cab stand, but he does not know if they saw the assault. He stated that he does not believe in violence and if he knew anything at all regarding any assault on anybody, he would tell everything he knows about it.

GROVES stated that he knows a man named BEN (LNU) who runs the Coffee Pot Cafe, but could not recall whether or not BEN was around the area of Washington Street during the night of the assault. He said he does not know FLOYD GROOM

On 3/18/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD BUCARO: mfm Date dictated 3/19/65

RICHARD A. HARDOCK

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and has not heard anybody admit that they had witnessed the assault.

GROVES stated that he very frequently has Mrs. LACKEOS as a passenger when he takes her home after work from the Silver Moon Cafe, but he does not recall specifically if he took her home the night of the assault.

GROVES stated that during the past month or so, numerous white visitors to Selma have been eating at the Negro cafe across the street called Walker's Cafe, but he has not paid any attention to any of these people and could not identify any of them.

Date 4/3/65

1

CHARLES K. GADDY, #48 Aster Street, Flamingo Trailer Court, Selma, Alabama, an employee of the M & M Electric Company, 1519 Jeff Davis Avenue, was interviewed at his residence and furnished the following information:

GADDY advised that on the evening of March 9, 1965, he left work as usual about 5:15 or 5:30 PM, had dinner at home and then returned to the downtown area of Selma about 7:30 PM, after delivering some clothing to his mother at her home, 1110 Memorial Street. He went to the Coffee Pot Cafe (CPC), 125 Washington Street, Selma, which is located diagonally across Washington Street from the Silver Moon Cafe (SMC), 138 Washington Street and Walker's Cafe, 100 block of Washington Street. He said he had one beer and left the CPC about 8:15 PM and proceeded to the Dallas County Courthouse where he attended a gathering of the Dallas County Sheriff's Posse. He said he is a member of the Dallas County Sheriff's Posse and usually attends the regular meetings which are held on the third Thursday of the month and also goes to meetings or gatherings at the meeting hall, Dallas County Courthouse Building, to play cards as he did the night of March 9, 1965.

The only customer he could recall being at CPC was MACK JACKSON, an employee of the Black and White Cab Company located next door to the CPC who had coffee there. He, GADDY, was looking out the window of CPC which faces Washington Street and observed several whites and Negroes, male and female individuals, walking along Washington Street and some of these persons entered Walker's Cafe. Although he saw several white and Negro persons enter and leave Walker's Cafe he did not pay sufficient attention to them to observe if any were ministers nor could he identify any of the persons he observed.

While at the CPC looking out the window, he did not observe a fight or scuffle in the area of Washington Street in range or his vision. No attack on white ministers was discussed at the CPC while he was there, to his knowledge. He recalls that R. B. KELLY whom he has known for 6-7 years came into the CPC a few minutes before he left. KELLY was with another white male person wearing a cowboy hat but he could not identify or describe this person further. GADDY did not

On 4/2/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SA RAYMOND L. BECK and
SA PAUL M. CONRAD/lr Date dictated 4/3/65

observe the direction from which they came but after arriving they stayed in the CPC and were still there when he left. He advised he is not friendly with KELLY because KELLY cheated him at cards about two years ago at Amvets Hall, Selma, which is now closed.

GADDY said the only thing he saw while at the CPC which indicated there may have been a fight nearby was the "town drunk, SMITTY" who he saw passing the CPC had blood on his face and clothing. He said he attached no significance to SMITTY's appearance at the time as SMITTY is noted for being in trouble and he just passed off his appearance as being more or less normal.

GADDY stated he played cards at the Dallas County Courthouse, March 9, 1965, and did not hear about the assault on the ministers until sometime after 10 PM while still playing cards and he paid little attention to it and does not even recall how the matter came up or who mentioned it. He did not learn any details of the assault until the next day when he heard about it on a news broadcast.

He advised he has known ELMER L. COOK about 1-2 years, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE about 6-7 years and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE about 1 year, all on a casual basis as he has no reason to associate with or have business dealings with them. Of the 4 subjects, he saw only KELLY the evening of March 9, 1965, and only at the CPC. He stated he was not involved in the assault on the white ministers on March 9, 1965, had no knowledge as to who might have been involved and has not discussed the matter with any of the subjects.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/651

Mrs. JOE OLIVER, 907 Green Street, advised that she works as a cook in the kitchen at the Coffee Pot Cafe for "Mr. BEN," whose last name she does not know.

Mrs. OLIVER stated that she was working during the night of March 9, 1965, back in the kitchen and did not hear or see anything regarding an assault on three ministers. She said Mr. BEN was in and out of the Coffee Pot Cafe during the evening hours, but she had no idea as to the time he was in the cafe or out of it.

Mrs. OLIVER said she knows Mr. COOK but does not recall seeing him during that evening. She was unable to identify photographs of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY or photographs of Reverend ORLOFF MILLER and Reverend CLARK OLSEN as any persons she has ever seen.

On 3/18/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RICHARD BUCARO: mfm Date dictated 3/19/65

RICHARD A. HARDOCK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 3/23/65

LUTITIA WARREN, 207 Buckner, advised that she is a waitress at the Coffee Pot Cafe located on Washington Street in Selma, Alabama, and has worked at the cafe for four weeks.

WARREN was displayed photographs of ELMER COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY, and she advised these persons are familiar to her but she does not know their names. WARREN stated she has seen these men at the cafe on different occasions but could furnish no information regarding their activities or associates.

WARREN also stated she does not know if any of these men were at the Coffee Pot Cafe during the evening of March 9, 1965. She further stated she has heard no talk about an assault on three white ministers on the night of March 9, 1965, and she did not learn of the assault until reading about it in the newspaper the day after it occurred.

On 3/22/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233

by SAs CARL E. BEASON
and VICTOR B. SNIDER:gmh Date dictated 3/23/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 3/23/65

B. F. CATRETT, 412 Fourth Avenue, Selma, Alabama, furnished the following information at his place of employment, Kabco Loan Company, Selma Avenue:

CATRETT advised that ELMER COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, and R. B. KELLY are friends of his, and that he is a business associate of ELMER COOK.

CATRETT stated that on the evening of March 9, 1965, he left work at 6 p.m., stopped at the Coffee Pot Cafe for one cup of coffee, and at approximately 6:15 p.m. went home and remained there the rest of the night.

CATRETT stated he knows nothing about the assault on Reverend REEB on the night of March 9, 1965, nor does he know anyone who has information regarding the assault.

On 3/22/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233

SAs CARL E. BEASON and
by VICTOR B. SNIDER:gmh Date dictated 3/23/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 20, 19651

CORA SMITH, 1311 Le Grand, furnished the following information:

She advised she is the cook at the Coffee Pot Cafe which is located across Washington Street from the Silver Moon Cafe. SMITH further advised she has worked at the Coffee Pot Cafe for eight weeks and does not know many of the customers who frequent the restaurant.

SMITH stated that photographs of WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, R.B. KELLY and EIMER COOK are familiar to her but she does not know these individuals by name or any associates of these persons.

She further stated she does not know if any of these persons were in the Coffee Pot Cafe on March 9, 1965, nor has she heard anyone in the cafe discuss the incident involving the assault of Rev. REEB on the night of March 9, 1965.

On 3/20/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs CARL E. BEASON and
VICTOR B. SNIDER/kzh Date dictated 3/20/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/18/651

BRADLEY D. CAPPS, 309 Faulk Avenue, was interviewed at his place of business, Capps Auto Service, 2130 Highway 80 East, both Selma, Alabama. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and that any statement he made could be used in a court of law. He furnished the following information:

CAPPS stated that he had no firsthand information concerning an allegation that one of the HOGGLE brothers, that is WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE or NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, had struck any of the ministers who were assaulted in the vicinity of the Silver Moon Cafe, 100 block of Washington Street, Selma, Alabama, on March 9, 1965. He advised that he, therefore, did not desire to discuss the matter and would not furnish the identity of an unknown source who is alleged to have observed the attack on the ministers. He stated that if he should obtain any reliable information substantiating this allegation, he would contact the FBI.

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA PAUL M. CONRAD and
SA RAYMOND L. BECK/lr Date dictated 3/18/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/26/651

Mr. BRADLEY CAPPS, Capps Service Station, Highway 80 East, Selma, Alabama, advised that he has decided not to divulge the name of the person who told him he saw the assault on three ministers.

CAPPS was advised by SA RICHARD BUCARO that there is a possibility he may be subpoenaed by a Grand Jury to testify as to his knowledge of this case whereupon CAPPS stated that he would refuse to testify before any Grand Jury inasmuch as he did not witness the assault and knows nothing about it except hearsay.

On 3/23/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

SA RICHARD A. HARDOCK and
SA RICHARD BUCARO/ljs

by

Date dictated

3/26/65

MO 44-1233

FBI LABORATORY REPORT OF EXAMINATION OF
CLUB TAKEN FROM R. B. KELLY'S AUTOMOBILE
MARCH 10, 1965

SECTION V

MO 44-1233

RB/bah

1

On March 20, 1965, a club taken from the automobile of R. B. KELLY by Lieutenant DANIEL P. KNIGHT, Selma, Alabama Police Department, on March 10, 1965, was submitted to the FBI Laboratory for examination.

By Laboratory report dated March 24, 1965, the following findings were reported:

Specimens received March 23, 1965

Q35 Club

Results of examination:

No bloodstains, tissue particles or human hairs were found on the Q35 club. One dog hair, one blue synthetic fiber, three black woolen fibers, one white woolen fiber, one pink cotton fiber and one black cotton fiber were found on specimen Q35. The type of garment or other source from which the fibers originated could not be determined; however, the fibers were mounted on a glass microscope slide for possible future comparisons.

MO 44-1233

INVESTIGATION TO ESTABLISH ACTIVITIES
OF SUBJECTS AND SUSPECTS AND CHECK OF
ALIBIS

SECTION VI

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 23, 1965

1

Mr. LAWTON LA PORTE, La Porte T.V. Service, 1503 Selma Avenue, advised that R.B. KELLY has been employed there for the past 2½ months but he has known KELLY all his life. He said KELLY is married and lives at 137 Water Street with his second wife, ALICE, and that he has two children by a former wife who live with their mother. He said he has never been to KELLY's home and does not know what sort of home life he has. KELLY has no military service and dropped out of school and has been a television service man for at least ten years.

Mr. LA PORTE stated that during the evening of March 9, 1965, they quit work at their usual time, approximately 5:30 p.m. and stood around talking with KELLY and BILLY EDWARDS, who is a friend of KELLY's, until approximately 5:40 p.m. At that time KELLY and EDWARDS left the t.v. shop saying they were going somewhere for a beer. Mr. LA PORTE said that he himself also left to deliver a radio to a customer and returned to the shop. He said around 6:30 or 6:40 p.m., KELLY and EDWARDS returned to the shop and CARL SEELE, HENRY H. BAGGETT, also a t.v. employee, and WALTER HOLLINGSWORTH were present and someone had purchased a fifth of Vodka which they began to drink. He said KELLY and EDWARDS had at least one drink of Vodka and after the group just about completed the fifth of Vodka he closed the shop and everyone left at approximately 7:10 p.m.

He heard plans made among SEELE, EDWARDS and KELLY to meet at the Silver Moon Cafe for a beer before going home and they all got into their respective cars and drove away.

He stated that he could not recall any conversation among that group, particularly on KELLY's part, indicating they had any resentment of white people going to Walker's Cafe, which is a Negro place, and heard no discussion whatever of any plans of an assault of any kind. He said as best he could recall the only subjects they spoke about were women and fishing.

On 3/22/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
by RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/23/65

He said KELLY is not the type to engage in any violent activity such as an assault of this kind but is more of the type who would leave when trouble arose. He said he feels certain that KELLY, although having had a few drinks, was sober when he left the t.v. shop and that there was never any indication whatever that KELLY was planning anything like attacking white people who were visiting Selma in connection with the voters demonstration and if KELLY is in fact involved in that assault it must have been completely spontaneous.

On March 10, 1965, after learning of KELLY's arrest he went to the police department and signed KELLY's bond for \$2500 on charges of assault, however did not sign his bond when murder charges were filed against KELLY later.

He stated that he has since spoken with KELLY since his arrest and KELLY has insisted that he was not involved in the attack of the three ministers and has said only that he was drinking beer while the assault went on but did not say whether or not he witnessed the assault.

Mr. LA PORTE said that he had also spoken with SEELE and EDWARDS a day or so after the attack and they told him that KELLY did not take part in the assault of the three ministers.

He said the only thing he has heard KELLY say in regards to the civil rights demonstrations of white and Negro people in Selma was that he wished they would go home.

He stated that he knows the HOGGLE brothers slightly but has not spoken with them just before or since the assault and that he knows COOK as a businessman only. He stated that KELLY is not generally known to associate closely with the other three subjects of this case and could not furnish the names of any close associates of KELLY.

He stated that he himself has heard only rumors about the assault and generally everyone he has spoken with, names unrecalled, have said the four subjects mentioned above did not assault the three ministers and he has no information as to who did.

He said the next day after the assault KELLY came into the t.v. shop to work and acted normally and said nothing about participating in or observing any assault.

He recalled that CARL SEELE later told him that his brother-in-law, EARL MELTON, was in the Silver Moon Cafe the evening of the assault but did not know what MELTON may have seen.

Mr. LA PORTE stated that if he should receive any information whatever which has a bearing on this case he will furnish it immediately to his brother, Captain FRANK LA PORTE, Identification Officer, Selma, Alabama Police Department.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 31, 1965

1

WALTER H. HOLLINGSWORTH, 1307 Selma Avenue, was interviewed at his place of employment, the American Acceptance Company, 30 Broad Street, and furnished the following information:

HOLLINGSWORTH advised that when he left work shortly after 5 P.M., March 9, 1965, he proceeded to the La Porte TV Shop on Selma Avenue where he remained from approximately 5:30 until the shop closed around 7:10 P.M. Several persons were in and out of the shop during the period he was there, but the only individuals he specifically recalls being at the shop were LAWTON LA PORTE, Proprietor, "SONNY" BAGGETT, and R. B. KELLY, employees of the shop who were there at least part of the time and all left at the time the shop closed. KELLY arrived there about 6:20 to 6:30 P.M.

HOLLINGSWORTH stated that conversation at the shop was of a general nature and was mostly of a "bull session" type. Nothing regarding the racial situation was discussed to his recollection nor was anything said about planning any violence. He said that although when some of the men get together at LA PORTE's as they did in the early evening of March 9, 1965, they will have beer or whiskey to drink, but he could not specifically recall whether they had any drinks at the shop that night. When the shop closed each of the above individuals went his respective way. He and "SONNY" BAGGETT lingered outside the shop for about ten minutes, talking about finances after which he, HOLLINGSWORTH, went home and to his knowledge BAGGETT went home. He did not know plans for the evening of any of those at the shop the night of March 9, 1965. HOLLINGSWORTH advised that he is a casual acquaintance of subjects in this case and would estimate that he has known COOK for about ten years, KELLY six to eight years, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, eight to ten years. He stated he has not, to his recollection, discussed the assault of the white ministers March 9, 1965, with any of the subjects except KELLY, who he saw a day or two

On 3-30-65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs RAYMOND L. BECK and PAUL M. CONRAD:kg Date dictated 3-31-65

after the assault occurred, at which time KELLY advised him he was not involved in the assault on the ministers. He said that KELLY advised him that he had been in the Silver Moon Cafe (SMC) the night of March 9, 1965, time not indicated, and that at some time during the evening he heard a scuffle outside the SMC, walked out onto the sidewalk two to three feet, noticed there was a scuffle in progress and he immediately went back into the SMC so that he would not become involved. KELLY told him that he did not recognize anyone who was involved in the scuffling nor had he heard who was involved in it. HOLLINGSWORTH stated that he did not attempt to go into detail with KELLY concerning this incident and he could recall nothing further he told him about it.

HOLLINGSWORTH stated that he has no information concerning who was involved in the assault on the ministers, but personally believes that KELLY had nothing to do with it as he considered him to be a very fine person who was prone to avoid trouble rather than try to find it.

Date 4/2/65

Mr. HENRY H. BAGGETT, 114 Mabry Street, who is a TV technician at LaPorte TV Shop, Selma, Alabama, was contacted at his place of employment and furnished the following information:

BAGGETT stated he remained at the LaPorte TV Shop along with other employees and acquaintances the evening of March 9, 1965. He recalled that he finished work as usual about 5:30 PM and stayed at the shop to converse with a fellow employee, R. B. KELLY, LAWTON LA PORTE, Owner, and friends BILL EDWARDS, WALTER HOLLINGSWORTH, and CARL SEALY (phonetic). He said that all of these individuals were at the shop at one time or another during the period 5:30 to about 7:00 or 7:15 PM when the shop closed.

With the exception of him and HOLLINGSWORTH, who is in the loan business and who discussed a loan for a few minutes outside the shop, all of the remaining individuals took off in their respective automobiles and left the area of the shop. He and HOLLINGSWORTH remained there conversing for about ten minutes and then left.

He believes SEALY, KELLY, and EDWARDS had previously made arrangements to meet at the Silver Moon Cafe (SMC) after they left the shop although he is not certain of this. He believes that KELLY and EDWARDS had left the shop around 5:30 PM for some unknown reason and returned to the shop about 6:15 PM.

While at the shop this group consumed a fifth of vodka which he had gone out and purchased at a nearby store. The topic of conversation seemed to be HOLLINGSWORTH's boat, a large cabin cruiser, which he maintains in Destin, Florida. He said that to his recollection the racial situation in the Selma, Alabama, area was not discussed, and he heard no plans for violence or any other plans which would involve the racial question. He said all were in good spirits, had a good time, and no one became intoxicated with the amount of vodka consumed.

On 3/31/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SA PAUL M. CONRAD and
SA RAYMOND L. BECK : bah Date dictated 4/1/65

After leaving the TV shop and talking to HOLLINGSWORTH, he went directly to Griffin Grocery Store on Jeff Davis Street, remained there a few minutes, and arrived home about 7:45 PM. Within 15 to 20 minutes he left his home with his wife and two children and proceeded to the home of a friend, FRED T. VAUGHAN, whose address he cannot recall, and remained there until shortly after 8:00 pm, after which he and his family returned home. He did not hear about the assault on the white ministers until the 10:00 PM news, March 9, 1965, or the early morning news March 10, 1965.

While at work the morning of March 10, 1965, and before he knew anything about KELLY's being charged in the assault, he jokingly said to KELLY, "How come you ripped that preacher last night". He stated he said this strictly in a kidding manner and there was no significance to it as he had no knowledge KELLY was or would be charged in the assault and at that time did not even know he had been at the SMC the night before. His only purpose in making this statement was to make conversation, and he would just as likely have said it to someone else who might have been present at the time.

He recalled that KELLY remarked to him that he was not involved in the attack.

BAGGETT stated he does not recall discussing the assault on the ministers directly with KELLY, although he has either heard him say or someone else say KELLY, SEALY, and possibly BILL EDWARDS did go to the SMC after leaving the TV shop on March 9, 1965. He has no knowledge as to how long they stayed there, although it is his impression they were in the SMC at the time the assault occurred. He does not know who else may have been with them, whether they stayed together while there, or the time they left or whether they left together. He said that he had never heard from KELLY or anyone else that KELLY left the SMC at the time the ministers were being attacked.

BAGGETT advised he has known KELLY for the past seven or eight years and knew him for the past two or three months as a fellow employee at LaPorte's TV Shop. He has never known KELLY to be violent or to have such a reputation, has never seen him intoxicated nor has he known him to have been in trouble. He considers KELLY to be a fine person and not prone to become involved in committing violence. He said

MO 44-1233

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he knows ELMER L. COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE only casually and has had no dealings with them. He stated he noted the newspaper has carried articles about COOK indicating he has a long police record, but he has no personal knowledge of COOK's being in trouble. He stated that the only other person he had heard who might have been at the SMC the night of the assault was HOUSTON SMITH, a roofer or carpenter, who apparently spends a great deal of time at the SMC. He did not know whether SMITH had been involved in the assault, and he has no knowledge of anyone who may have been involved in it, including COOK, KELLY, and the two HOGGLE brothers.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/20/651

Mrs. BONITA JEAN FULLER, Number 77, Capps Trailer Park (Buddy Trailer), was contacted at her place of residence. She was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and that she did not have to make a statement and any statement made by her could be used in a court of law. Selma, Ala.

Mrs. FULLER was advised that the Agents desired to talk to her regarding the assault which had occurred in the 100 block of Washington Street, Selma, Alabama, during the evening of March 9, 1965. At this point, Mrs. FULLER stated that "you have probably heard that I was with Mr. COOK when he left the Silver Moon Cafe that night and I have been advised by Mr. COOK's attorney not to discuss this matter with the FBI." She identified Mr. COOK's attorney as being Mr. JOSEPH T. PILCHER, whose office is in the old Selma National Bank Building on Broad Street, and stated she believed PILCHER was COOK's attorney on the local and not the Federal charge. She said she is employed as secretary to ELMER L. COOK at the C & C Novelty Company in Selma. The interview was immediately terminated at this point.

On 3/19/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs RAYMOND L. BECK and
PAUL M. CONRAD RLB/jsw Date dictated 3/20/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 25, 19651

Mrs. BONITA JEAN FULLER, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents, was contacted at the C and C Novelty Company, 129 Washington Street, and furnished the following information:

Mrs. FULLER advised that she still did not desire to discuss the attack on the white ministers on March 9, 1965, with Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mrs. FULLER was advised the the possibility of being called before a grand jury as a witness and in response she stated she intended to consult with her attorney and would be guided by his advise concerning further discussions in this matter.

On 3/23/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs RAYMOND L. BECK and
PAUL M. CONRAD RLB:CMS Date dictated 3/24/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/3/651

Mrs. BONITA JEAN FULLER, #77 Capps Trailer Park, (Buddy Trailer), Selma, Alabama, was recontacted at her place of residence.

She advised that she did not desire to discuss the attack on the white ministers on March 9, 1965, with the Agents of the FBI.

She stated she had recontacted her lawyer, and upon his advice, she still did not desire to discuss this matter with the FBI.

On 3/31/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA PAUL M. CONRAD and
SA RAYMOND L. BECK:bah - ls Date dictated 4/1/65

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

RG: 65 Federal Bureau of Investigation

SERIES:

NND PROJECT NUMBER: 50873

FOIA CASE NUMBER: 29727

WITHDRAWAL DATE: 11/20/2008

BOX: 01284

FOLDER: 0001

TAB: 9

DOC ID: 31206782

COPIES: 21 PAGES: 63

ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

FOLDER TITLE: 44-HQ-28441 110-120 Section 4

DOCUMENT DATE: 03/19/1965 DOCUMENT TYPE: Report

FROM:

TO:

SUBJECT: 44-28441-110 (pages 168-170)

The original version of this document has been withdrawn. Attached is a copy of the original with portions deleted for the following reason(s):

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/651

LEWIS FOREMAN, 2517 Valley Creek Circle, Selma, Alabama, furnished the following information at the Bamboo Club, located on River Road, Selma:

He advised he is Vice President of Bamboo Club, Inc., and as such handles most of the book work connected with the operation. He further advised the Club does not employ a bartender. The waitress on duty handles service of drinks as well as waiting on tables.

FOREMAN was displayed photographs of EIMER L. COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY and he advised he is acquainted with these men through their being frequent customers at the Bamboo Club. FOREMAN also advised he has been in Selma, Alabama, for 1½ years and is not socially acquainted with these persons and was unable to furnish names of associates of COOK, KELLY and the HOGGLE brothers.

FOREMAN stated that to the best of his knowledge he saw EIMER COOK at the Bamboo Club sometime during evening March 9, 1965. He was unable to recall time COOK was at the Club or how long he remained.

FOREMAN also stated there were several customers, names unknown, at the Club on March 9, 1965. He explained he recognizes by sight many customers but he does not know their names or anything about them.

FOREMAN advised he does not know [redacted] by name but that [redacted] could possibly be a frequent customer of the Bamboo Club.

FOREMAN said he has heard no discussion regarding assault on Rev. REEB.

FOREMAN advised that IRENE SOMERLOTT was the waitress working on March 9, 1965 and that ETHEL AYCOX was cashier on duty that night.

FOIA(b)6
FOIA(b)7 - (C)

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CARL E. HEASON/lr Date dictated 3/19/65

Screened

By: Searcher2 Date:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/651

PAUL WOODSON, 537 Dixie Drive, furnished the following information:

He advised that he and LEWIS FOREMAN were partners in the Bamboo Club, Incorporated, and his, WOODSON's, position is that of President of that corporation.

WOODSON stated he has been in the Selma area for 13 years and has been acquainted with STANLEY and NAMON HOGGLE, ELMER COOK, and R. B. KELLY for seven or eight years. WOODSON also stated these men are frequent customers at the Bamboo Club. WOODSON advised he is a social acquaintance of ELMER COOK and that he went on COOK's bond in this matter as well as on the bond of the HOGGLE brothers.

WOODSON stated he recalls ELMER COOK and STANLEY and NAMON HOGGLE being at the Bamboo Club sometime during the evening of March 9, 1965. WOODSON also stated he does not know what time these persons were at the club, but stated they were there for approximately 30 or 40 minutes and had possibly two drinks.

WOODSON also advised he did not hear any discussions regarding an assault on Reverend REEB and further advised he could furnish no information concerning this assault.

WOODSON stated he knows BEN VARDAMAN, but does not recall if VARDAMAN was in the Bamboo Club on March 9, 1965. He also advised he does not know [redacted] but stated there is a customer who frequents the club and who is called [redacted]. WOODSON advised the person he knows as [redacted] was not in the club the night of March 9, 1965, and reiterated that he does not know if the person he knows as [redacted] is identical to [redacted].

FOIA(b) 6

FOIA(b) 7 - (C)

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

SAS CARL E. BEASON and
VICTOR R. SNIDER

CFR/icw

3/19/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/651

ETHEL AYCOX, 703 Old Montgomery Road, Selma, Alabama, furnished the following information at her place of employment, the Bamboo Club, River Road, Selma. She was displayed photographs of ELMER L. COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and R. B. KELLY and she advised she knows all of these persons from their being frequent customers at the Bamboo Club.

AYCOX further advised she has known R. B. KELLY on a casual basis for several years but was unable to identify any close associates of KELLY, COOK or the HOGGLE brothers. AYCOX explained her association with these persons is not of a social nature, but through their being customers at the Bamboo Club.

AYCOX stated she recalls seeing STANLEY HOGGLE and ELMER COOK sitting at the bar of the Bamboo Club on the night of March 9, 1965, but can not remember when they arrived or time they left. She stated there were several customers in the Club at the same time, but she does not remember who was present or if any of these other customers were with ELMER COOK and STANLEY HOGGLE.

AYCOX advised she knows BEN VARDAMAN and remembers him being at the Bamboo Club during evening of March 9, 1965. She stated VARDAMAN was accompanied by a woman, unknown to her, and they sat in the back part of the Club and did not associate with HOGGLE, COOK, or other customers.

AYCOX also advised she does not know [redacted] by name and therefore, could not say if [redacted] was in the Club on March 9, 1965.

AYCOX stated she has not heard anyone talk about the assault on Rev. REEB and advised she first heard of the assault the day after it happened.

FOIA(b)6
FOIA(b)7 - (C)

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CARL E. BEASON/lr Date dictated 3/19/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 20, 19651

IRENE SOMERLOTT, 109 3rd Avenue, furnished the following information:

She advised she has worked as a waitress in the Bamboo Club located on River Road, Selma, Alabama, for one month. She further advised that the photographs of ELMER COOK, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and R.B. KELLY are identical to persons who are frequent customers at the Bamboo Club. She stated she does not know these persons by name or any associates of these persons.

SOMERLOTT stated she worked during the night of March 9, 1965, but cannot recall if any of the subjects were in the club during that night. She also stated she heard nothing regarding the assault on Rev. REEB and was unaware of this assault until March 10, 1965, when she read about it in the paper.

On 3/19/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs CARL E. BEASON and
VICTOR B. SNIDER/kzh Date dictated 3/20/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/3/651

IRENE SOMERLOTT, 109 Third Avenue, Selma, Alabama, waitress at the Bamboo Club, was re-contacted and she advised that R. B. KELLY has been a frequent customer at the Bamboo Club. SOMERLOTT advised that she has not over-heard KELLY mention anything in regard to the REEB assault.

SOMERLOTT further advised that a CLARENCE SMITHERMAN, a barber in the Post Office Barber Shop, has also frequented the Bamboo Club and he was over-heard to say that he was an eyewitness to an assault, possibly the assault of Reverend REEB. SOMERLOTT further over-heard that R. B. KELLY, on the night of the assault of Reverend REEB, was in possession of a baseball bat, but she cannot remember who made this statement.

On 4/2/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA CARL E. BEASON and
SA VICTOR B. SNIDER VBS/mjr Date dictated 4/2/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/6/65

CLARENCE SMITHERMAN, home address, Route #3, Box 94, Selma, Alabama, Barber, Post Office Barber Shop, Selma, advised that he did not see the assault of the white minister in the 100 block of Washington Avenue on March 9, 1965. He related that he does not frequent the bars on Washington Avenue, and that he has been in the Silver Moon Cafe and Coffe Pot Cafe only once in his life approximately three years ago.

He related that on the seventh of March, 1965, he observed the assault of what he believes to be an FBI Agent during the course of racial demonstrations on the south side of the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. He related that he has previously been interviewed by FBI Agents concerning this matter. He could furnish no further information in regard to the assault of Reverend REEB.

On 4/6/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SA RICHARD A. HARDOCK /bah Date dictated 4/6/65

Date 3/17/65

1

Mr. EDGAR BENNETT VARDAMAN was interviewed at his place of business, the City Pawn Shop (CPS), 1122 Selma Avenue, Selma, Alabama. He was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and SA RAYMOND L. BECK advised him that he did not have to make a statement and that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised of his right to counsel prior to making any statement and no threats or promises were made to him. VARDAMAN furnished the following information:

VARDAMAN advised that he came to his office at the CPS which he owns and operates, at his usual time on March 9, 1965, sometime between 8-8:30 AM. As is normal for many of the businessmen located in and around the 100 block of Washington Street, they had coffee at the Coffee Pot Cafe (CPC), 125 Washington Street, which is also owned by VARDAMAN. However, he did not desire to name these businessmen as he could not definitely recall who might have been present on March 9, 1965. He conducted his business at the CPS as usual on March 9, 1965, and closed for the day at approximately 5:45 PM, after which he proceeded to the Selma Motor Company, 100 block Franklin Street, a used car lot, which is in the block adjacent to Washington Street. VARDAMAN is part owner of the Selma Motor Company with NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and DOUGLAS G. WILLIAMS. VARDAMAN provides finances for operation of this business, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE is the mechanic, and WILLIAMS is the salesman; profits are split three ways among these individuals. VARDAMAN arrived at Selma Motor Company at about 5:50 PM and recalls that NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and WILLIAMS were there at the time. He could not remember whether CHARLIE (LNU) and WILLIAM (LNU), 2 Negro employees, were there. He remained at the Selma Motor Company 20-30 minutes talking to NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and WILLIAMS about the business of the company after which VARDAMAN and WILLIAMS left there in one of the company's cars, a 1958 Chevrolet, "pink", in color, at about 6:20-6:30 PM. WILLIAMS dropped him off at the CPC and he understood WILLIAMS was going to dine out with his wife and Highway Patrolman DUNLOP who is assigned to Selma, and DUNLOP's wife.

About 5 minutes after VARDAMAN's arrival at CPC, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE came into the cafe. He was driving a car from the Selma Motor Company lot but VARDAMAN could not recall the make or color of this car. NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and he drank coffee there

On 3/16/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA PAUL M. CONRAD and
SA RAYMOND L. BECK/lr Date dictated 3/17/65

and about 10 minutes after they had arrived, Lt. DANIEL KNIGHT of the local Police Department came in and sat with them. While KNIGHT was there, their conversation was of a general nature. KNIGHT left after about 15-20 minutes and then VARDAMAN moved to another table and talked to a regular customer whose name he is unable to recall. Mrs. FRANCES BOWDEN, manager of the CPC, was also sitting at that table and after a few minutes the customer left the establishment at about 6:55 PM. VARDAMAN advised that at about 7 PM or possibly slightly thereafter, he left the CPC with Mrs. BOWDEN and as he was at the door, leaving the restaurant, he was met there by a regular customer whose name he does not know but who is a night watchman somewhere in town who was coming into the cafe at the same time. While standing at the door he talked to this individual briefly about a fight which had occurred across the street.

He recalls this customer had pointed diagonally across the street, in the direction of the Silver Moon Cafe when he mentioned this fight. VARDAMAN told this customer he did not know of any fight and he recalls the customer was unable to tell him the identities of those who were involved in the fight. As he looked back into the cafe, he recalls seeing NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE standing near the back of the restaurant as if he had just come from the washroom.

VARDAMAN and Mrs. BOWDEN left the CPC and proceeded to the Bamboo Club, River Road, on outskirts of Selma, Alabama, where they had dinner and remained there from shortly after 7 PM until about 9 PM. While at the Bamboo Club, he remembers observing WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE at the bar, however, is unable to recall any of the individuals who were with him at the bar. VARDAMAN advised he did not speak with WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE or have any contact with him while at the Bamboo Club and saw no other personal acquaintances there. He believes WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE was still at the Bamboo Club when he and Mrs. BOWDEN left there at about 9 PM, and returned to the CPC. When they arrived at the CPC, he noticed 2 or 3 City and two County Patrol cars in the 100 block of Washington Street in the area of the Silver Moon Cafe. He talked to one of the City Patrolmen whose identity he does not recall as to the reason for them being there, and was asked by this Patrolman if he had seen any fight on this street earlier that evening. He advised the Patrolman he had not observed any trouble in the immediate area and could not furnish any information to the Patrolman concerning this matter. They

stayed at the CPC for approximately 15-20 minutes and left there and went to Mrs. BOWDEN's apartment, 800 block Pettus Street, Selma, where he remained until about 11 PM and thereafter returned to his home. VARDAMAN further advised that in addition to Mrs. BOWDEN who manages the CPC, he has two night operators, Mrs. CORA SMITH and Mrs. LUTITIE WARREN both of whom live somewhere in Selma.

VARDAMAN recalls seeing ELMER L. COOK during the day on March 9, 1965, at least once and possibly one other time and could possibly have had coffee with him the morning of March 9, 1965, at the CPC. He was unable to state when he last saw COOK on that date, but since COOK operates the C & C Novelty Company, 127 Washington Street, which COOK owns along with ERNEST CASEY whom he believes is COOK's partner, he knew he had occasion to see him during the day. He said CASEY is in his 60's and has had a stroke in the past year. COOK also is in the used car business and operates the C & C Motor Company, Water Avenue, Selma, Alabama, and WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE is a salesman there and one or two Negro employees also work there along with a white mechanic whose identity is unknown to him. He also advised that an individual he knows as CATRELL (phonetic), and who they call "B. F." may be part owner in the C & C Motor Company with COOK. VARDAMAN advised that COOK is a close associate of his, however, he knows him mainly as a fellow businessman due to the fact that he owns and operates the C & C Novelty Company, which is in the vicinity of the CPC and both have interests in used car lots. He has known COOK for about 4 years. He advised he has known that COOK has a police record for assault and battery charges, but to his knowledge all of these charges were placed against him because of his assaulting Negroes rather than white individuals. He has never known COOK to use any brass knuckles when COOK has been in any fights.

VARDAMAN stated that he did not participate in any attack on white ministers which took place in the vicinity of the Silver Moon Cafe which is located in the 100 block of Washington Street, Selma, on March 9, 1965, nor did he see any such attack. He advised that all he knows about the incident is what he has read in the newspapers.

The following description of VARDAMAN was obtained through observation and interview:

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MO 44-1233

Edgar B. Vardaman
E. B. Vardaman

Ben Vardaman

Edgar Ben Vardaman

EDGAR BENNETT VARDAMAN

Name	Male
Sex	White
Race	August 20, 1919 <u>or September 20, 1908</u>
Date of birth	Pensacola, Florida
Eyes	Blue, wears glasses
Hair	Brown, graying, high forehead
Height	6' 1"
Weight	190 lbs.
Build	Heavy
Complexion	Ruddy
Scars and marks	Burn scar on right shoulder, in shoulder blade area
Marital status	Married
Occupation	Self employed - City Pawn Shop, Coffee Pot Cafe, Selma Motor Company
Residence	Route 4, Box 33PT, Selma, Alabama
Former residences	618 Parkman Avenue, Selma, Alabama; Johnson Apartments, Selma.
Telephone numbers	CPC - 874-9111 CPS - 872-3671 Present residence 874-5134
Education	Graduate of Shelby County High School, Columbiana, Alabama
Relatives	Wife - LILLIA KATHERINE VARDAMAN, nee FINLEY age 42, born April 5, 1922 Son - CHARLES BENNETT VARDAMAN, age 22, born May 4, 1942 Son - JOHN EVERETT VARDAMAN, age 21, born August 15, 1943 Daughter - CHERYL KAYE VARDAMAN, age 18, born October 26, 1946 Father - JOHN IRA VARDAMAN, age 65, Mother - THELMA AGNES VARDAMAN, nee Niven, age 64.
Military service	Enlisted U. S. Air Force, October 31, 1942, honorably discharged November 27, 1945. <u>Air Force Serial Number</u> <u>14176692</u>

SS# 418-14-9404

Del.

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MO 44-1233

Social Security No.	418-14-9404
Nationality	Scotch-German decent
Arrest record	Admitted being arrested by FBI on charges of conspiracy and buying and receiving stolen automobiles, was tried and found not guilty.

VARDAMAN furnished the following additional background information:

VARDAMAN came to Selma, Alabama, in December, 1945, after his discharge from the United States Air Force. He went into business with his father who was residing in Selma and they operated the Vardaman Sand Company in Selma and Burnsville, Alabama, which is located about 8 miles north of Selma. He remained in this business from about 1946 until 1958 or 1959 at which time the business was sold and he subsequently bought out the Dixie Finance Company which is located in the building where the CPS is now located. He kept this finance company until December 8, 1960, at which time he sold out and opened the CPS and has been operating this business since March 1961. On July 2, 1964, he bought the CPC and the Selma Motor Company was formed in June 1964, and he is still involved in these two businesses.

VARDAMAN's wife is employed by the Department of Pensions and Security, State of Alabama, which is located in the 1000 block of Selma Avenue, Selma, Alabama.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/21/65

1

Mrs. FRANCES E. BOWDEN, 813 Pettus Street, Selma, Alabama, was interviewed at the Coffee Pot Cafe (CPC), 125 Washington Street, Selma, of which she is the manager, and furnished the following information:

BOWDEN advised that on March 9, 1965, she was on duty at the CPC from 4 AM to 2 PM and after work stayed around the 100 block of Washington Street talking to various businessmen, spending most of her time until 5 PM with BEN VARDAMAN who owns the CPC and the City Pawn Shop nearby. She went to her home and was there between about 5 and 6 PM after which she returned to the CPC and remained there for about one hour. While there she had coffee with NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE and VARDAMAN, and although there were several other customers in the Cafe at the time, she could not recall them by name. CORA SMITH, night cook, and IUTIFIC (sic) WARREN, waitress, relieved her at 2 PM and worked the remainder of that day. The CPC closes at midnight.

BOWDEN advised that she and VARDAMAN left the CPC around 7 PM or slightly thereafter. HOGGLE was talking on the telephone at the rear of the CPC when they left but she could not recall whether it was the result of an incoming or an outgoing call. She believed he also talked on the telephone once or twice during the period 6 to 7 PM but again could not say whether this was due to him placing or receiving calls. She was unable to remember anything specific about the conversation while having coffee at the CPC with HOGGLE and VARDAMAN.

BOWDEN and VARDAMAN proceeded to the Bamboo Club on the outskirts of Selma together from the CPC in his car, a 1961 Oldsmobile 4-door, white with blue top, and left her car, a white 1961 Oldsmobile convertible, parked near the CPC. They had dinner at the Bamboo Club, and stayed there until about 9 PM after which they returned directly to the CPC for 15 or 20 minutes to have a cup of coffee and arrived there a few minutes after 9 PM.

While at Bamboo Club, the only persons she recalls seeing, who she knew, were Mrs. ETHEL (INU), cashier, PAUL WOODSON, and "LOU" (INU), the latter two of whom are co-owners of the Club. She and VARDAMAN spent all of the time while at the Bamboo Club in the dining room which is located in the rear of the Club and they did not go to the bar during this time. No one else

On 3/19/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA PAUL M. CONRAD and
SA RAYMOND L. BECK/lr Date dictated 3/21/65

came into the dining room for dinner to her knowledge during the time they were there. She did not see NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE at the bar as they left, although several people were at the bar at that time and she did not see him during the remainder of the evening.

She left CPC at the same time as VARDAMAN and drove her car to another section of town where she parked it and got in VARDAMAN's car who had followed her to that point. After this they drove to a lonely section of town and parked, remaining there for approximately 2 hours. They thereafter returned to her car and she entered and VARDAMAN followed her home in his car as he usually does after they have had a date. They arrived at her apartment about 11 PM but he did not come in as her mother and brother reside with her.

She stated she is acquainted with ELMER L. COOK, R. B. KELLY and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE's brother WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE. She did not see these three individuals at the CPC or Bamboo Club on the evening of March 9, 1965. She said all of these individuals are customers of the CPC and with the exception of KELLY, the remainder have coffee at the CPC nearly every morning. KELLY only occasionally comes to the CPC. She has known COOK for about two years, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE 3-4 years, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE 1-2 years, and KELLY most of her life. She was brought up in the same neighborhood with KELLY, in East Selma, and went to grammar school with KELLY's sister, JEANNETTE KELLY who later married but whose married name she does not know.

BOWDEN advised that her maiden name was KYNARD and that she quit school in 1953 to marry RAYMOND G. BOWDEN from whom she is now divorced. She stated she had four children by that marriage and these children are between ages of 6 and 11. She said her former husband gained custody of the children when they were divorced, however, subsequently put them into the care of the welfare authorities. She stated she has since gained custody of the children who are now in foster homes but will be returned to her at end of the current school year, probably in June, 1965.

BOWDEN advised that she has no personal knowledge concerning the assault on the white ministers in the 100 block of Washington Street, Selma, March 9, 1965, nor has she heard who may have been involved in the attack.

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

RG: 65 Federal Bureau of Investigation

SERIES:

NND PROJECT NUMBER: 50873

FOIA CASE NUMBER: 29727

WITHDRAWAL DATE: 11/20/2008

BOX: 01284

FOLDER: 0001

TAB: 10

DOC ID: 31206783

COPIES: ~~21~~ PAGES: ~~42~~

ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

FOLDER TITLE: 44-HQ-28441 110-120 Section 4

DOCUMENT DATE: 03/19/1965 DOCUMENT TYPE: Report

FROM:

TO:

SUBJECT: 44-28441-110 (pages 181-182)

The original version of this document has been withdrawn. Attached is a copy of the original with portions deleted for the following reason(s):

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/651FOIA(b)6
FOIA(b)7 - (C)Address

[redacted] Alabama, was contacted by SAs CARL E. BEASON and VICTOR B. SNIDER. [redacted] was advised of the identities of interviewing agents, that he did not have to make a statement, that any statement he made could be used against him in court and that he was entitled to the services of an attorney before making any statement. In addition SA BEASON advised [redacted] that if he could not afford an attorney, he would be appointed one by court.

[redacted] stated that he did not want to make any statement regarding this matter.

[redacted] advised he has lived in the Selma, Alabama, area for 19 years and has known WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, ELMER L. COOK and R. B. KELLY for several years. [redacted] refused to indicate his relationship with these persons and stated again that he did not wish to make any further statements.

The following descriptive data of [redacted] obtained through observation and interview:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5' 8½"
Weight	175 lbs.
Date of birth	[redacted]
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Scars	2" scar upper right forearm
Relatives	[redacted]
Prior service	U. S. Navy
Service Number	[redacted]
Employment	Self employed home renovation.

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CARL E. BEASON/lr Date dictated 3/19/65

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Screened

By: Searcher2 Date: 18/

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/651FOIA(b) 6
FOIA(b) 7 - (C)

[redacted] Selma, Alabama,
furnished the following information:

She advised she does not remember her husband's activities on the night of March 9, 1965, but believes he was at home the entire evening.

Mrs. [redacted] stated that her children were to receive school report cards on Wednesday, March 10, 1965, and she recalls her older daughter being somewhat apprehensive about grades and it is Mrs. [redacted] recollection that her husband remained home the evening of March 9, 1965, going over school work with his daughter.

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CARL E. BEASON/lis Date dictated 3/19/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/19/651

VERLON THACKER advised that on March 9, 1965, he went to the Hollywood Cafe about 7:30 p.m., and was there about 30-60 minutes when R. B. KELLY came in. At that time KELLY did not mention where he had been and said nothing about an assault. THACKER and KELLY had a drink or two at the Hollywood Cafe then both of them went to the Silver Moon Cafe sometime between 8:00 and 9:00 p.m. They had one or two beers at the Silver Moon Cafe and then went across the street to the Coffee Pot Cafe where they had three or four beers. THACKER advised that they were at the Coffee Pot Cafe at around 10:00 p.m. After leaving the Coffee Pot Cafe, KELLY drove THACKER back to the Hollywood Cafe in KELLY's car, a 1957 blue and white Oldsmobile.

THACKER stated he knew R. B. KELLY, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and ELMER L. COOK but had seen none of them other than KELLY that night. THACKER advised he had not heard anything that night concerning an assault on three white ministers.

On 3/17/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SAs VICTOR B. SNIDER: gmh/mfm Date dictated 3/19/65
CARL E. BEASON

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 24, 1965

Mr. ERNEST L. CASEY, RFD, Minter, Alabama, was interviewed at his residence after being advised of the identify of the agents, and he furnished the following information:

He advised he is in partnership with ELMER L. COOK, in the C&C Novelty Company, 129 Washington Street, Selma, Alabama. He entered this partnership about 1958-1959 and, although active in the business until January, 1963, he has been unable to take an active interest since that time due to a stroke he suffered which has paralyzed most of his left side. The business is operated by Mrs. BONITA JEAN FULLER without any other assistance.

At the time the partnership was formed, he invested \$4300 as did COOK; however, it is his understanding that Mrs. MARY LEE COOK, his wife, actually provided the money for COOK's interest in the business. He knew COOK for only a short time before entering business with him and he recalled COOK had previously been in the loan business in Selma and also had other business interests. He particularly remembers COOK was apparently in the welding business when a J. P. WRIGHT, who COOK accused of not sharing collections which WRIGHT had made in connection with their business accounts and, in fact, COOK and WRIGHT became involved in a fight in the C&C Novelty Company office. It was his recollection that COOK grabbed WRIGHT around the neck and punched him several times with his fists. He said that COOK is "high strung, hot headed," and wouldn't take anything from anyone and fights with very little provocation. He easily flies off the handle and will fight on the spur of the moment. CASEY believes COOK was a boxer as a young man and that he served in the United States Navy and may have boxed while in the Navy.

Among COOK's other business interests is a used car lot in Selma known as the CNC Motor Company and he

On 3-22-65 at Minter, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs RAYMOND L. BECK and PAUL M. CONRAD:kg Date dictated 3-24-65

believes COOK has been in that business since about the time of CASEY's stroke in 1963 and one of the HOGGLE brothers is in partnership with COOK in that business but he is not certain which of the brothers it is.

COOK is married, has two sons and a daughter and to the best of his knowledge COOK's wife is a bookkeeper or clerk at Craig Air Force Base and she may be from Texas. He believes COOK owns or is buying the home in which he lives. CASEY stated that cook has one brother, "SUNNY" COOK, who has a furniture business in Selma and one sister and his mother who may be living in Texas. His father is deceased.

He said that Mrs. BONITA JEAN FULLER has been married twice, her first husband's name was FULLER and she has retained that name, although she later married an electrician whose name he does not recall but he believes she was this man's second wife. Mrs. FULLER has a daughter of about grammar school age and he believes this daughter is by the second husband. The whereabouts of these men are unknown to him.

CASEY stated he has known the HOGGLE brothers, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, and R. B. KELLY only on sight and has had no business dealing with them. One other businessman in town with whom he was associated is BEN VARDAMAN, present owner of the city pawn shop. He and VARDAMAN previously owned this shop together for about one and one-half years until about three months ago when he sold out to VARDAMAN.

He considers VARDAMAN a fine person and an honest businessman. However, with regard to COOK, he has begun to doubt his honesty due to developments in connection with their partnership and mainly because he has received no money out of this partnership and has no prospects of receiving it. He stated that he and KELLY first went into their partnership by means of a verbal agreement and he continues to be unable to determine the status of the business from COOK of JOSEPH PILCHER, lawyer for C & C Novelty Company, who is also CASEY's lawyer. He sees COOK very seldom and has not had contact with him since COOK was charged in connection with the assault on the white ministers.

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MO 44-1233

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Due to his physical impairment he has not been in Selma regularly these past several months and was not there on March 9, 1965. He has heard little if any discussion concerning the assault on the ministers March 9, 1965, and knows of no one, including COOK, the HOGGLE brothers and R. B. KELLY, who may have been involved. He recalled that when the matter of COOK's being charged in the assault came up between CASEY and Mrs. FULLER, she told him COOK had not assaulted the minister and was not worried about the outcome of the charges against him. He said that if Mrs. FULLER knew anything concerning who committed the assault, she would not divulge it to him and doubts she will provide any information she may have to authorities.

Date 4/3/651

Mr. M. T. LIPHAM, 3000 North Broad Street, was interviewed at his place of business, the Corral Restaurant, Highway 80 East, Selma, Alabama, and furnished the following information:

He advised he is the owner of the Carrol Restaurant and has resided in this area for approximately 20 years.

On March 9, 1965, he was at his place of business from 4 PM that afternoon until shortly after midnight. About 10 PM the evening of March 9, 1965, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE came into his place of business by himself and sat at the bar. Mr. LIPHAM stated he was working behind the bar that night and talked to HOGGLE but he did not have any discussion with him about a fight that occurred in the 100 block of Washington Street on the evening of March 9, 1965. He stated that HOGGLE stayed at his place of business until midnight at which time HOGGLE left by himself and he did not see him the remainder of the evening.

Mr. LIPHAM advised the first time he heard anything about the assault on the white ministers was a little after midnight when JOHN CROSS, a customer, came into his place of business and advised him of the attack which occurred that evening.

He advised that he has known ELMER L. COOK for 15 years; WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE for 10 years; NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE for 10 years; and R. B. KELLY for 15 years. He stated that these individuals patronize his place of business approximately once a month and when in his place of business they have caused no trouble whatsoever.

Mr. LIPHAM could not furnish any information concerning the attack on the white ministers which occurred in the 100 block of Washington Street on March 9, 1965.

On 4/2/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SA PAUL M. CONRAD and
SA RAYMOND L. BECK/lr

Date dictated 4/3/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 24, 1965

Mr. WILLIAM L. PIPER, Route 2, Box 16, Selma, Alabama, was interviewed at the Ted Gentry Chevrolet Company, 121 Lauderdale, where he is a new car salesman, and he furnished the following information:

PIPER stated he is a native of Selma, Alabama, and has spent all of his life here except the time he was in the United States Army in 1943 and 1944. He stated he is a casual acquaintance of all four subjects in this matter and has had business dealings with all of them except ELMER L. COOK, whom he has known for about the past two years.

He has known R. B. KELLY about three years and the HOGGLE brothers, WILLIAM STANLEY and NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, for about eight or nine years. During the time WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE was a mechanic at the Cloverleaf Creamery in Selma, he, PIPER, was parts manager at the Ted Gentry Chevrolet Company and had numerous contacts with him for that reason; and, consequently, he became rather well acquainted with WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE. Although NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE was also a mechanic at Cloverleaf Creamery for several years, he did not have such occasion to have frequent contacts with him, and knows him only casually.

He stated he was promoted to the sales force at Ted Gentry Chevrolet in 1960 and since the HOGGLE brothers and COOK have in recent years been involved in the automobile sales business, his contacts with these individuals have become less frequent because he now thinks of them in terms of being his competitors.

PIPER stated he left work as usual March 9, 1965, at approximately 5:30 P.M., went directly home, and remained there all evening with his wife and four children. He did not see any of the subjects that evening. He first learned of the assault on the white ministers the next day at work. A day or two after the assault, after he had

On 3/23/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

SAs RAYMOND L. BECK and
by PAUL M. CONRAD RLB:CMS/KG Date dictated 3-24-65

MO 44-1233

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heard of the white minister's death, he immediately went to City Hall to determine if he could be of any assistance to any of the subjects in making bond, particularly WILLIAM S. HOGGLE, since he knew him best. He would have helped solicit funds to meet the bond for any or all of the subjects, but found that this assistance was not needed.

PIPER stated he has seen only one of the subjects since the assault and that was when NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE came to the used car lot of Ted Gentry Chevrolet Company, which is adjacent to the new car sales room, on business; but he did not discuss the assault with him.

PIPER stated he has no personal knowledge of who may have committed the assault on the white ministers and knows of no one who was involved. He said that discussion of the matter is apparently being avoided as he seldom hears the assault mentioned in conversation. He said he personally is not sympathetic with anyone who would break the law and if he should learn who committed the assault, he would advise the FBI.

MO 44-1233

INCIDENT REGARDING ATTACK ON MEDICAL VAN
OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, MARCH 9,
1965

SECTION VII

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

3/17/65

Date _____

RICHARD U. HAUSKNECHT, MD, 5700 Arlington Avenue, Riverdale, New York, practicing at 1176 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, interviewed at the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, furnished the following information:

He received his pre-medical education at Carlton College, Northfield, Minnesota, and was graduated from Tufts Medical College, Boston, Massachusetts with an MD degree in 1955. He interned at New England Medical Center, Boston, Massachusetts and served a four year residency at Yale University Medical Center, New Haven, Connecticut. He held the rank of Captain in the United States Army Medical Corps during the period 1960 - 1962 when he resigned his commission.

He was licensed to practice medicine in the State of Connecticut in 1957 and in the State of New York in 1962.

He serves as an instructor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York, New York; he is serving as Acting Director of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Elmhurst City Hospital, Elmhurst, Long Island; and is Assistant Attending Physician at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, New York.

He is a member of the Medical Committee for Human Rights (MCHR), 211 West 56th Street, New York, New York, and currently serves on the executive committee of this organization.

About two weeks ago, together with Dr. AARON WELLS, Chairman of MCHR, he visited with Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING in Atlanta, Georgia, and at that time they inquired if assistance from the MCHR was necessary at Selma, Alabama. At that time Dr. KING stated he did not believe aid was necessary.

On Friday, March 5, 1965, calls were received from SNCC and a member of Dr. KING's staff advising of the march to Montgomery scheduled for Sunday, March 7, 1965, and requesting

3/15/65 New York, New York

NY 44-1108
Mobile 44-557

On _____ at _____ File # _____

by SAS JAMES P. O'NEIL and GERALD V.
CASWELL/lca

3/16/65

Date dictated _____

NY 44-1108
Mobile 44-557

assistance. On Saturday, March 6, 1965, he rounded up first aid material which was dispatched to Selma.

After the incident of March 7, 1965, he received a call from Dr. LESTER MADDOX, a physician of Selma, Alabama, inquiring the treatment of persons who had been exposed to tear gas. He contacted the surgeon of the New York City Police Department, obtained the necessary information, and furnished this by telephone to Dr. MADDOX at Selma.

On Monday, March 8, 1965, a request was made by the MCHR for additional assistance and he among others left on that date for Selma.

The purpose of the doctors being in Selma was to provide:

1. sympathetic medical presence
2. to expedite the transfer of injured persons to local physicians and hospitals
3. to administer emergency first aid.

There was no intent on the part of any MCHR member to practice medicine and he personally did not take with him any of his surgical equipment.

On arrival in Selma on Monday evening he did see some persons who had been exposed to tear gas on the previous day with Dr. MADDOX but acted in a consultive capacity only, using the information he had obtained from the New York City Police Department.

NY 44-1108
Mobile 44-557

On that night and on the following day preparations were made by the MCHR members for any further problems which might arise in the event of another conflict with the authorities. An infirmary was set up at the First Baptist Church from which Dr. MADDOX would direct the first aid and medical assistance operation and the other doctors were assigned to other duties close to points where injuries might be anticipated.

On Tuesday, March 9, 1965, there was no call for the services of any MCHR members.

About noon on Wednesday, March 10, 1965, he and Dr. H. J. GEIGER were placing ambulances at points close to the police lines where a march was scheduled to start. As he placed his ambulance in position he was called by a uniformed State Trooper to a marked car of the Alabama Highway Patrol. As he was called and anticipating some problem he called to Dr. GEIGER who was nearby to join him.

They were told by the trooper to get into the car and found it to be occupied by three uniformed troopers and a man in civilian clothes.

There was no notice that they were being placed under arrest and he asked no question because he felt it was better to wait and see the purpose of the contact. He surmised they were probably being asked to go to some point to identify some person.

After a short discussion they were driven to the Dallas County Sheriff's Office in the Court House, where they were taken into an office and questioned by the man who had been in civilian clothes in the highway patrol car.

This man, who later identified himself as DOUGLAS O. BENTON, Secretary or Executive Secretary of the Alabama State Board of Licensure, asked for identification of Dr. GEIGER and Dr. HAUSKNECHT and inquired of them as to their reason for being in Selma.

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Mobile 44-557

Each displayed identification and he explained to BENTON the reasons for all MCHR members being in Selma as above.

BENTON summarized the Alabama State law and stated they would violate the law if they advised, diagnosed or treated any person as physicians.

He told BENTON they did not wish to violate the law but that any physician has the right and obligation to give emergency assistance to any injured person.

BENTON stated this is true but only if a medical disaster has been declared by the Governor and that in any case there were plenty of physicians in nearby states who hold licenses to practice in the State of Alabama.

It was at this point he asked Mr. BENTON who he was and his position, assuming to this point that BENTON was a law enforcement officer.

He told BENTON that he did not believe it was necessary that there be a disaster before treating a person and gave an example of an automobile accident which he might happen upon on the highway.

BENTON repeated that if he or any of the others touch, pick, assist in any way giving first aid or any treatment, no matter what the emergency, they would be subject to arrest. He also stated that there was a sufficient number of Alabama physicians to take care of any emergency.

BENTON stated the Alabama Medical Society was "up in arms" over the presence of the MCHR in the State.

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He advised there is no MCHR chapter in Alabama and there had been no contact by the MCHR with the Alabama Medical Society before or after coming to Selma.

He told BENTON that the presence of the MCHR in no way implied that Alabama physicians or hospitals are inferior or that they would refuse treatment to injured persons. He told BENTON that the committee was aware that the Good Samaritan Hospital, Selma, had provided excellent care on March 7, 1965. He also pointed out again that the physicians, nurses and ambulances, provided by a Selma citizen, had transported persons to local physicians and hospitals and were under supervision of local physicians, Dr. LESTER MADDOX and Dr. DINKENS.

BENTON repeated that he would have to order their arrest if they assisted any person in any way.

He asked BENTON if this meant that he would have stopped them from arresting the bleeding of Reverend JAMES REEB whose skull had been fractured in an assault on the previous night.

BENTON stated that if they had been there and attempted to assist in any way he would have arrested them immediately.

He told BENTON that if he were in the presence of anyone who was injured or required emergency care he would obey his conscience and his obligation as a physician, regardless of a threat of arrest.

BENTON again asked if they had practiced medicine while in the State and he told him he had not.

At this point a man in civilian clothes asked if he and Dr. GEIGER would agree to have their picture taken and BENTON stated that he was not ordering this done but requesting it. He asked BENTON the purpose of the photograph, to which

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Mobile 44-557

BENTON replied that they were for identification purposes. Full face and profile photographs were taken by this other man who was not identified to them.

At no time during the course of this contact did he ask BENTON if he were under arrest and no such statement was made. He did not believe that he was under arrest and this idea only came to him after his return to New York City when he discussed the incident with his father, HARRY HAUSKNECHT, a practicing attorney, who suggested he and Dr. GEIGER had been the subjects of a false arrest.

At no time was he or Dr. GEIGER physically assaulted, at no time was anyone discourteous, and as a matter of fact, all of the persons were most careful in their conduct toward them.

On the evening of March 9, 1965, he and Dr. GEIGER, together with about five nurses of MCHR, had dinner at Walker's Cafe about 45 minutes before the assault on Reverend REEB.

They had come from the cafe and entered a Ford panel truck used as a medical van by the committee which was parked in front of the cafe. Just after entering the van one of the nurses called his attention to a man approaching the van with his fist raised and shouting obscenities. They immediately locked the doors and windows of the van and this person, with two companions, beat on the side of the van with their fists and rocked the van as if to turn it over.

Sensing that there would be trouble, he told Dr. GEIGER, who was driving to leave the site immediately.

He has the impression that these men were probably a part of the group which attacked Reverend REEB and believes he could identify at least one.

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Mobile 44-557

He described this man as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	42 to 45 years
Height	6'2"
Weight	225 pounds
Apparel	Wearing a light blue baseball cap, khaki trousers and khaki shirt and a zippered blue wind-breaker

He recalls a second man as being:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	20s
Hair	Blond crewcut
Remarks	Thin features
Apparel	Wearing khaki shirt and khaki trousers

On Wednesday, March 10, 1965, about 3:00 P.M., some 75 to 100 young people moved around the police lines which were containing the demonstrators and some received superficial injuries when the police finally came in contact with them and returned them behind the lines. He assisted Dr. DINKENS in examining some of these youngsters but does not consider that he practiced medicine in so doing.

At no time did he take part in any of the demonstrations at Selma as he has never done this, believing he can provide a greater service through the MCHR.

He departed from Selma on March 11, 1965, because the immediate need for his presence was over with sufficient facilities available to handle any situation. In addition, his practice at New York City demanded his return.

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The persons in his company and that of Dr. GEIGER on the evening of March 9, 1965, at Walker's Cafe were Mrs. VIRGINIA WELLS, BRENDA PRICE, and LINDA DUGAN, together with a couple of more nurses, names not known to him.

The following description was obtained in the course of the interview:

Name	<u>RICHARD U. X HAUSKNECHT</u>	
Sex	Male	
Race	White	
Citizenship	United States	MINN.
Date of Birth	<u>November 6, 1929,</u>	MASS.
	<u>Brooklyn, New York</u>	CONN.
Height	5'8"	
Weight	140 pounds	GA.
Build	Slender	ALA.
Hair	Black, worn close-cropped	
Eyes	Hazel	
Complexion	Medium	
Peculiarities	Wears glasses	
Marital Status	Married, two children	
Father	HARRY HAUSKNECHT, New York City	
<u>Address - 5700 Aelington Avenue, Riverdale, New York</u>		

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

3/24/65

Date _____

RICHARD U. HAUSKNECHT, M.D., 5700 Arlington Avenue, Riverdale, New York, practicing at 1176 Fifth Avenue, New York, furnished the following information:

During the period March 8 - 11, 1965, he was at Selma, Alabama, as a member of the Medical Committee for Human Rights (MCHR) providing medical assistance to demonstrators led by Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On the evening of March 9, 1965, he was in the company of Dr. H. J. GEIGER, Mrs. VIRGINIA WELLS, Miss BRENDA PRICE, Miss LINDA DUGAN, and two other nurses, all members of the MCHR delegation at Selma. The group went to dinner at Walker's Cafe at approximately 6:30 P.M. or 7:00 P.M., the exact time he cannot recall. It was, however, just turning dark at the time. The cafe was crowded and a large number of white clergymen who had come to participate in the demonstration were at the cafe to eat.

The MCHR medical van in which the group had come to the cafe was parked about halfway to the corner from the cafe or about a distance of forty feet to the right of the cafe door as one left.

The group was in the cafe for well over an hour because of slow service and departed together walking to the van.

Dr. GEIGER entered on the driver's side, the other nurses entered to sit in the rear and Miss LINDA DUGAN sat in the middle in the front seat.

He entered last, to take the seat on the passenger side in the front and as he was doing so Mrs. WELLS called out to him to hurry. Without knowing the reason he quickly got into the van and as he seated himself observed a white male on the sidewalk in front of the van approaching it. He could see the man clearly in the headlights.

On 3/22/65 at New York, New York File # NY 44-1126
Mobile 44-1233
by SAS JAMES P. O'NEIL and GERALD V. CASWELL/lea Date dictated 3/24/65

NY 44-1126

As the man came to the passenger side of the van he staggered as if he had been drinking and was waving his fist at the van and shouting obscenities. He came to the side of the vehicle and beat on the side and windows which had been closed and locked by the occupants.

This man was joined by a second white male who came from the direction of a cafe located on the corner and he could see one or two others standing in the shadows in front of the cafe.

The two men continued to pound with their fists on the side of the vehicle as they shouted and they rocked the van as if attempting to turn it over.

Dr. GEIGER, within a matter of seconds, put the van in gear, backed out of the parking space, and they drove off.

The first man was a white male in his early 40s; 6'1" - 6'2" in height; 220 pounds; heavy build with a noticeable paunch, brownish hair, observable under a blue baseball cap, and was wearing khaki trousers and a khaki shirt with a GI issue webb belt. He was wearing a blue windbreaker of a light water repellent material which was open in the front.

The second man was a white male in his early 30s; 5'10"; 150 - 155 pounds; who wore his hair close-cut, though not in a crewcut, and was wearing a khaki shirt and khaki trousers. He wore no hat or jacket.

Neither of the men had any scars or marks or particularly distinguishing physical feature.

The group drove to the Torch Motel where they were staying but it took them between 20 minutes and a half-hour to make the trip because they became lost en route. Mrs. WELLS, immediately after entering her room, knocked on the wall and

NY 44-1126

called him and Dr. GEIGER to her room to listen to a television news flash of the assault on the Reverend JAMES REEB.

The group immediately thought of the possibility that the white men who had accosted their group had been responsible for the assault on Reverend REEB because he had been leaving Walker's Cafe at the time of the assault and the time lapse he estimates was 25 to 35 minutes when they got notice.

They immediately went to Brown's Memorial Church and reported the incident in which they were involved to the authorities because of its possible use in the REEB case.

Reverend REEB was not known to him or to any others in his group to his knowledge and he had not known that Mr. REEB was in Walker's Cafe at the time they were there.

He viewed the following photographs:

NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, Selma PD #11214
WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, Selma PD #11212
ELMER L. COOK, Selma PD #11213
R. B. KELLEY, Selma PD #11211
EDWARD JOSEPH STAGG, Nassau County PD #1961-122
WILLIAM JOSEPH DAHRINGER, Clinton Prison #37680
ROBERT ALLEN PAGE, FBI #3 122 546
THOMAS A. O'HALLORAN, FBI #416 985 E
HANS B. PETTERSSON, FBI #439 406 D
FRANK ANDERSON, JR., FBI #604 762 B
AEDAN MC CARTHY, Connecticut State Prison #198583
VINCENT M. CMAR, FDH NYC #H-8599
JOHN C. ADAMS, FCI Danbury #17304-CT
MIKE MARTIN, NY #508

He was unable to identify any of the individuals appearing in these photographs as being either of the two men who accosted the MCHR group outside Walker's Cafe.

NY 44-1126

He selected the photograph of ROBERT ALLEN PAGE above as giving the general impression of the facial features of the man who first approached the car.

He stated the photograph of ELMER COOK is that of a person who looks familiar to him and with whom he associates some activity at Selma, but could not relate him to this incident.

He noted the photograph of WILLIAM HOGGLE was that of a man about the age and general build of the first man who approached the van, but he has no recollection of ever having seen this person before.

He stated he might be able to identify at least the first man who approached the van if he were to see him in person.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1.

Date 3/20/65

Doctor HERMAN JACK GEIGER was interviewed and furnished the following signed statement:

"Boston, Mass.
March 19, 1965

"I, Dr. HERMAN JACK GEIGER, hereby make the following voluntary statement to BERNARD T. MC CABE and ARTHUR F. HODGENS who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"On March 9, 1965, I was in Selma, Alabama. I was with a group of people who had just finished eating the evening meal at the Liston-Clay Cafe on a street whose name I do not recall in Selma. The people with whom I dined were: Dr. RICHARD HAUSKNECHT from New York City, Mrs. VIRGINIA WELLS, Miss NADINE BATTLE, and Miss BRENDA PRICE, all of whom are registered nurses from New York City. Others in this group were Miss PHYLLIS CUNNINGHAM from Hattiesburg, Mississippi and Miss LINDA DUGAN from Jackson, Mississippi. We left the cafe at approximately 6:30 to 7:00 P.M. and although the sun had set, it was still light.

"When our group had come out of the cafe, we turned to our right and proceeded toward where we had parked the medical van. I would estimate the distance from the door of the cafe to the site where the van was parked to be about 40 feet and to get to the site, we had to pass Walker's Cafe. The medical van is a Ford Econoline Van which has a loudspeaker on the roof and a sign in a window reading 'MCH' (which stands for the Medical Committee for Human Rights) as well as a red cross.

On 3/19/65 at Boston, Massachusetts

File # Boston 44-432

by SAS ARTHUR F. HODGENS & BERNARD T. MC CABE/can

Date dictated 3/19/65

"We all entered the van, and I got behind the wheel. Dr. HAUSKNECHT was sitting at the opposite door with LINDA DUGAN sitting between us. The van was parked at an angle with the left front wheel at the curb. As I started the motor, I became aware of 3 men approaching the van from my left, coming from the direction of the Silver Moon Cafe. These men were walking rapidly in single file. They were yelling something which I could not make out. I quickly called to Dr. HAUSKNECHT to roll up his window and lock the door. I started to back the van away from the curb. The first man of the group, which I will refer to as #1 man, was a white male, about 6 feet 2 inches tall, weighing 210 pounds, in his early 40s. He wore a blue baseball cap and a blue, zipper-type windbreaker which was open, as well as a khaki shirt and khaki pants. I also noticed that his belt-buckle was a large, military-type brass buckle. His face was flushed and he swayed as he walked and so I assumed he had been drinking.

"The second man, whom I will refer to as #2 man was a white male, 5 feet 9 inches tall, with slender build, weighing about 150 pounds. He had short, curly blonde hair. He also was dressed in khaki shirt and pants.

"I did not see the third man well enough to obtain any description of him.

"As I started to back the van into the street, the #1 man came around the front of the van and grabbed at the door at Dr. HAUSKNECHT's side. As this door was locked, he then moved back toward the rear of the van and tried to open the rear side door but could not open it. I could hear the men yelling "God damn nigger lovers" or words to that effect. The #1 man started beating with his fist on the metal side of the truck and on the glass of the rear side door. The #2 man had something in

his hand, which he used to beat on the right front fender as well as on Dr. HAUSKNECHT's door. This man also took a swing at the windshield but missed.

"I then drove off leaving the three men behind.

"At about 9 PM on the same day, I was at Brown's Chapel Church, and I heard that the Reverend Mr. REEB had been seriously hurt and was being taken in an ambulance to Birmingham with skull injuries. I heard that the assault on him had taken place after supper in front of Walker's Cafe. As a result I put two and two together and surmised that the same group which had beaten on the van had possibly been the group which had later assaulted Dr. REEB. I did not see anyone assault Dr. REEB, in fact, I do not recall seeing Dr. REEB at any time during March 9, 1965.

"Dr. HAUSKNECHT and I left the church and found WILSON BAKER, the safety director of Selma and reported the van pounding incident to him. He listened to us but made no notes. I would place this at about 10 PM on March 9. Immediately thereafter, we were contacted by FBI Agents.

"Special Agents MC CABE and HODGENS have shown me a series of photographs among which were photographs of WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, ELMER L. COOK and R. B. KELLEY.

"When I examined these photographs, I saw no names and made my identification without benefit of names.

"I can positively state that the photograph of ELMER L. COOK is a photograph of the man herein referred to as the #1 man.

BS 44-432

4.

"I can also identify the photograph of R. B. KELLEY as a photograph of the man herein referred to as the #2 man, although I am not as positive in my identification of him as I am in my identification of COOK.

"I am available and willing to testify anywhere concerning this matter.

"I have read these six pages and they are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Any corrections herein are in my handwriting.

"/s/ H. JACK GEIGER, M.D.

"With: /s/ WALTER F. HODGES, Spec. Agt, FBI, Boston

"Witness: /s/ BERNARD T. MC GABE, Special Agent, FBI, Boston."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 23, 1965

1

Miss MARION PHYLLIS CUNNINGHAM was contacted at the First Aid Station located in the First Baptist Church, Sylvan Street, at which time she advised she was born February 25, 1939, at Winona, Minnesota, and her permanent address is 635 West Broadway, Winona, Minnesota. She stated that she is employed as a nurse for the Council of Federated Organizations and Medical Committee for Human Rights and is assigned to the Selma, Alabama area working with the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

She was advised that an investigation was being conducted regarding the assault of the three ministers on the evening of March 9, 1965, one of whom, Rev. REEB, died as a result of the assault. She indicated that she knew nothing of that assault or the ministers who were assaulted but furnished the following signed statement regarding an incident in which she was involved in the same evening:

"March 22, 1965
Selma, Alabama.

"I, Marion Phyllis Cunningham, make this voluntary statement to Richard A. Hardock and Richard Bucaro who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Agent Bucaro has advised me that I do not have to make this statement and that it can be used in a court of law.

"I was born 2-25-39 at Winona, Minn. and am employed by Medical Committee for Human Rights as a nurse and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. I arrived at Selma, Ala., on March 8, 1965 and worked at the first aid station located at the First Baptist Church on Sylvan Street in furnishing service to those involved at the meetings at Selma for civil rights.

"On March 9, 1965 at approximately 5:30 PM, myself, Dr. H. Jack Geiger, Dr. Dick Hausknecht, together with nurses Virginia Wells, Vicki Levi

On 3/22/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SAs RICHARD BUCARO and
RICHARD A. HARDOCK/kzh Date dictated 3/23/65

(a medical student), Brenda Price and Linda Dugan departed the First Baptist Church for the purpose of going to Walker's Cafe on Washington St. Nadine Battle did not go with us, but another doctor named Geiger was along. We went in a 1964 Ford Econoline, bright green in color, which is used as a health van, owned by National Council of Churches. We parked midway between Walker's Cafe and Liston-Clay Cafe on the same side of the street, & some of us walked to Walker's Cafe and saw it was too crowded to eat, so we all went into Liston-Clay Cafe and had dinner. I noticed no people attempting to molest us.

"Approximately between 7:10 & 7:30 PM we all departed Liston-Clay Cafe and someone went to Walker's Cafe to look for Nadine Battle, but she was not there. Before returning to the van, I stopped to talk to Wilson Brown, a SNCC co-worker of mine, for a few moments. Dr. H. Jack Geiger drove the van & we all entered the van. After I entered the van I saw 3 white men through the right front window of the van who were approaching the van. I said for the others to hurry and lock the doors and I reached over and locked the rear side doors. H. Jack Geiger was slowly pulling out, backing, when the 3 men came close to the van and 2 of the men beat with their fists on the right windshield and right side passenger glass port of the front door. The men struck the windows very hard & made nasty comments which I do not recall. I saw no club and do not know what the third man did. There was no damage done to the van to my knowledge and we continued to back out. We were followed into the street and beating on the van continued. As soon as we got into the street we pulled on down towards Browns Chapel, but I do not recall what streets we went on, and arrived without any further incident.

"I have been shown photographs of Namon O'Neal Hoggle and R.B. Kelly and they do not appear to be anyone I have seen. The photographs of Elmer Cook and William Stanley Hoggle were also shown to me and I can not definitely eliminate them as any of the 3 men who pounded on the van.

"I did not see where these 3 men came from or went to after they pounded on the van, and to my knowledge I never saw them before or since.

"The only description I can recall is that the first man who approached the van had on khaki trousers and a hat with a brim. One of the others had a maroon shirt. The 2 men I saw best were of heavy build with broad shoulders. I can not estimate their height, but may have weighed in vicinity of 200 pounds. I do not recall seeing any scars, marks or other characteristics, but they were casually dressed.

"I have read the above four page statement and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"/s/ Marion Phyllis Cunningham

"Witnesses:

/s/ Richard Bucaro, Special Agent, F.B.I. 3-22-65

/s/ Richard A. Hardock, Special Agent, FBI 3/22/65"

She added that the medical van mentioned above is presently with the marchers between Selma and Montgomery, Alabama and is the property of the National Council of Churches.

She stated that WILSON BROWN mentioned in the statement, works for SNCC out of Atlanta, Georgia and can be located through that office located at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ Raymond Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/30/65

Miss LINDA HUNTER DUGAN, nurse, Medication Committee For Human Rights, with temporary residence at 1101 Deer Park Street, Jackson, Mississippi, was interviewed at the office of the Medical Committee For Human Rights, 507½ Farish Street, Jackson. She advised as follows:

On March 9, 1965 she was in Selma, Alabama in connection with her work for the Medical Committee For Human Rights. During the evening she went to the Liston-Clay Cafe located on Washington Street and had dinner. She was accompanied by Doctor RICHARD HAUSKNECHT, Doctor H. J. GEIGER, VIRGINIA WELLS, VICKY WELLS, VICKY LEVI, BRENDA PRICE, MADINE BATTLE, PHYLLIS CUNNINGHAM, and an unknown Negro native of Selma. They completed their meal shortly after 7:00 p.m. They walked out of the cafe and proceeded to the Ford Econoline which is the property of the Medical Committee For Human Rights. This vehicle was parked approximately one-half block from the Liston-Clay Cafe and was approximately in front of Walker's Cafe which she believes is also known as the Silver Moon Cafe. The street was dark in many areas, but in front of Walker's Cafe it was well lighted due to the cafe lights and a street light. The entire group got into the Ford Econoline. DUGAN sat in the front seat between Doctor GEIGER and Doctor HAUSKNECHT. As she was being seated, she noticed three white men standing at the corner of a building, either Walker's Cafe or the building next to it. These men were standing at the corner of the building which was also a street corner.

One of the white men started walking toward the vehicle. He was gesturing and his mouth was moving. He was apparently shouting at them but DUGAN could not hear what he was saying. She realized that this white man was probably going to cause them some trouble and she told everyone in the vehicle to roll up the windows and lock the doors.

On 3/24/65 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 44-1008

by SA HORACE P. BECKWITH/sjw Date dictated 3/25/65

The white man came and stood next to the parking meter near their vehicle and continued shouting and gesturing for approximately 15 seconds. He then walked around into the street and to the passenger side of the vehicle.

As Doctor GRIGER began backing the vehicle out of the parking space, this white man beat on the front windshield several times and also beat on the side of the vehicle. She does not recall that anything was thrown at the vehicle. She does not recall noticing the whereabouts of the other two white men during this occurrence.

DUCAN believes that Washington Street appeared to be deserted during the above occurrence with the exception of the three white men. She does not recall anyone else on the streets and cannot recall the descriptions of the vehicles parked on either side of the vehicle.

They drove immediately to the Torch Motel. Most of the people in the vehicle were dropped off at the motel, but she and the two doctors drove to Brown's Chapel where they dropped off the local Negro male. It was approximately 15 to 20 minutes after they left Listen-Clay Cafe that they arrived at Brown's Chapel. Five to ten minutes after arriving at Brown's Chapel they heard that three ministers had been beaten on Washington Street. DUCAN did not know Reverend JAMES REED, Reverend ORLOFF MILLER or Reverend CLARK OLSEN. She feels certain that these three ministers were not on Washington Street in the vicinity of Walker's Cafe during the time that their vehicle was briefly attacked by the above white male.

She stated she feels certain that the incident involving the three ministers occurred after they had left the area. She ascertained that no one in their vehicle witnessed any beating.

DUGAN stated that none of the three white males referred to above as being in the vicinity of Walker's Cafe had any noticeable weapons or clubs in their possession. She described the white male who struck their vehicle as being in his mid 40's, 5 feet 11 inches, 200 pounds, heavy, muscular build with a heavy stomach, no hat, sparse hair in front, probably brown, no neck tie, wearing a sport shirt, color unknown. She advised that she could not accurately describe the two white males who accompanied the above individual, but she recalls that they were approximately the same height and were not noticeably dissimilar in their appearance and build.

DUGAN examined photographs of NARON O'NEAL HOGGLE, Selma Police Department Number 11214; WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, Selma Police Department Number 112112; ELMER L. COOK, Selma Police Department Number 11213; and R. B. KELLY, Selma Police Department Number 11211. She stated that she could not positively identify any of the photographs as being identical with the individual that pounded on their vehicle. However, she stated that the photographs of R. B. KELLY had a close resemblance to the individual who pounded on the vehicle.

Concerning the unknown Negro male from Selma who had gone with them, she stated as follows: This man was quite drunk at the time and apparently is known to be frequently drunk. After eating, as soon as everyone entered the Ford Econoline, this man slumped to the floor and went to sleep immediately. She does not believe that he witnessed anything and does not believe that he could possibly have recalled the incident because of his condition. This man apparently was known to the people who work in the Liston-Clay Cafe. She described him as a Negro male, in his early 30's, 5 feet 8 inches to 5 feet 9 inches, 140-145 pounds, long unprocessed black hair, at least one gold tooth,

JN 44-1008

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casually dressed, and probably unemployed.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

Name:	<u>LINDA HUNTER DUGAN</u>
Sex:	<u>Female</u>
Race:	<u>White</u>
Date of birth:	<u>February 9, 1942</u>
Place of birth:	<u>Rochester, New York</u>
Height:	<u>5 feet 5 inches</u>
Weight:	<u>116 pounds</u>
Hair:	<u>Blond</u>
Eyes:	<u>Blue</u>
Home address:	<u>413 Shelford Road</u> <u>Rochester</u> <u>New York</u>
Temporary address:	<u>1101 Deer Park Street</u> <u>Jackson</u> <u>Mississippi</u>
Employment:	<u>Nurse for</u> <u>Medical Committee for</u> <u>Human Rights</u> <u>2111 West 56th Street</u> <u>New York, New York</u>
Temporary working:	<u>507 1/2 Farrish Street</u> <u>Jackson, Mississippi</u>
Education:	<u>Graduate nurse from</u> <u>Mt. Sinai Hospital</u> <u>New York, New York</u>

AIA.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 2, 1965

1

WILSON BROWN, 2129 Gordon Road, S.W., Apartment 12-B, Atlanta, Georgia, advised he is employed as a printer for the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, 360-62 Nelson Street, S.W., Atlanta, and on March 9, 1965, was in Selma, Alabama, in connection with Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee activities in that area. BROWN furnished the following information:

Sometime between seven and eight o'clock in the evening of March 9, 1965, he was about to walk past the Liston-Clay Cafe when he saw MARION PHYLLIS CUNNINGHAM come out of the cafe. They spoke for several minutes and while they did so, two Negro women and one white woman left the cafe and entered a Volkswagen bus used as a medical van. BROWN does not know the identity of these persons. Upon conclusion of their conversation, CUNNINGHAM entered the medical van. BROWN crossed the street and entered another cafe, name unrecalled, almost opposite the Liston-Clay Cafe.

Approximately fifteen minutes later BROWN was preparing to leave this cafe and while still inside the cafe looked out the front door toward the Liston-Clay Cafe. He observed the medical van, which was still angle-parked in front of the Liston-Clay Cafe, attempting to back into the street. Two white men were at the driver's side of the van beating the side of the van with their fists. A third man at the rear corner of the opposite side of the van appeared to be doing the same thing. The men appeared to be yelling, but he did not hear anything they may have said.

After approximately a minute, the van backed into the street, (name unrecalled), and drove away toward BROWN's right. The three white men walked down the street to BROWN's left. When they came to the first intersecting street, they turned to their left and passed out of BROWN's view.

On 4/2/65 at Atlanta, Georgia File # AT 44-1761

by SA ALAN G. SENTINELLA /rlk Date dictated 4/2/65

AT 44-1761

AGS:rlk

2

BROWN did not observe any other activity in front of the Liston-Clay Cafe, and BROWN left the cafe when the three men left.

He could not describe the three white men except to say one was approximately six feet tall and had dark hair. The other two men appeared slightly shorter. BROWN explained the illumination on the street was very poor and therefore he could not recall further descriptive data pertaining to these three men or recall what type of clothing they wore.

While BROWN observed the three white men beat the medical van, the only person in the cafe who also observed this was a Negro waitress. The name of this waitress is unknown to BROWN, but he advised she was the only waitress in the cafe at the time.

BROWN observed a photograph taken March 10, 1965, of R. B. KELLY, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, ELMER L. COOK, and a photograph taken March 11, 1965, of NANCY O'NEAL HOGGLE. BROWN said he could not state he had ever observed these men before.

BROWN said he was not in the vicinity of the Silver Moon Cafe in Selma during the evening of March 9, 1965.

MO 44-1233

CREDIT AND ARREST RECORDS FOR SUBJECTS AND
SUSPECTS, COPIES OF STATE WARRANTS AND
AFFIDAVITS CHARGING SUBJECTS WITH MURDER
OF JAMES REEB

SECTION VIII

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

RG: 65 Federal Bureau of Investigation

SERIES:

NND PROJECT NUMBER: 50873

FOIA CASE NUMBER: 29727

WITHDRAWAL DATE: 11/20/2008

BOX: 01284

FOLDER: 0001

TAB: 11

DOC ID: 31206784

COPIES: ~~41~~ PAGES: ~~42~~

ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

FOLDER TITLE: 44-HQ-28441 110-120 Section 4

DOCUMENT DATE: 07/09/1965 DOCUMENT TYPE: Report

FROM:

TO:

SUBJECT: 44-28441-110 (pages 217-218)

The original version of this document has been withdrawn. Attached is a copy of the original with portions deleted for the following reason(s):

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

Screened

By: Searcher2

Date:

1
MO 44-1233
RAH:kzh

Credit Information

On March 16, 1965, Mr. LEON EZELL, Manager, Selma Credit Bureau, 1000½ Water Street, Selma, Alabama, advised SA RICHARD A. HARDOCK that a review of the records of his office revealed the following information:

R.B. KELLY

Race	White
Sex	Male
In file	Has had credit record in office since July, 1950
Residence	113 West Water Avenue in October of 1963
Previous residence	601 Church Street Selma, Alabama
Wife	Married 1954 to ALICE M. BREWER, sister of Mrs. S.J. ABBOTT of Church Street, Selma. Wife employed as waitress at Splendid Restaurant in October, 1963
Employment	Television repairman at Loving T.V., Selma, in January and February of 1965

Inquiries concerning KELLY were made by:

O'NEAL HOGGLE

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

Race
In file

White
Has a credit record in his office since October, 1956, originally moved to Selma from

2
MO 44-1233
RAH:kzh

FOIA(b)6
FOIA(b)7 - (C)

Last known address	Greensboro, Hale County, Alabama
Previous address	Sam's Trailer Court Listed as Route 5 and Route 6 Selma, Alabama
Employment	Cloverleaf Creamery Selma, Alabama
Wife	DOROTHY HOGGLE
Children	Two children

WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE

Race	White
Sex	Male
In file	Has had credit record in his office since March, 1958
Last known address	905 Old Montgomery Road
Previous address	Hale County, Alabama and Route 6, Box 26, Selma
Employment	Self-employed, Hoggle's Garage, Selma
Previous employment	Cloverleaf Creamery from October, 1954 to 1963
Wife	MINNIE JEWEL
Children	Two children

Mrs. CAROL WHITMAN, Alabama Probation Officer, Marion, Alabama, at one time (date unknown), made inquiries concerning HOGGLE. It was determined that he was paroled on June 25, 1956, on car theft charges. HOGGLE has generally a poor to slow credit rating. Last inquiries concerning HOGGLE were in December, 1964, from Pioneer Finance Company and Attorney JOHN BLANTON in Selma.

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MO 44-1233
RAH:kzh

ELMER L. COOK

Race	White
Sex	Male
In file	Has had a record in the credit bureau files since July, 1946
Last known address	407 Crestwood Drive Selma, Alabama
Previous addresses	Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Galveston, Texas
Wife	MARY LEE
Children	Three children
Employment of wife	Employed by Civil Service at Craig Air Force Base for a period of approximately 6 years
Occupation	Currently part owner in the C & C Novelty Company in Selma
Past occupation	Worked for the Fulton Loan Company in Galveston, Texas, Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Selma, Alabama as manager. Also operated Cook Furniture Company in Selma which is presently out of business

Credit Bureau of Tuscaloosa has advised COOK is well regarded in that area. COOK enjoys a satisfactory credit rating in Selma in spite of numerous notations in his file concerning arrests, mainly on assault charges.

EDGAR BEN VARDAMAN

Race	White
Sex	Male
In file	Exact length of credit record unknown
Address	<u>Valley Grand Heights</u> <u>Selma, Alabama</u>

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

RG: 65 Federal Bureau of Investigation

SERIES:

NND PROJECT NUMBER: 50873

FOIA CASE NUMBER: 29727

WITHDRAWAL DATE: 11/20/2008

BOX: 01284

FOLDER: 0001

TAB: 12

DOC ID: 31206785

COPIES: 21 PAGES: 21

ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

FOLDER TITLE: 44-HQ-28441 110-120 Section 4

DOCUMENT DATE: 07/09/1965 DOCUMENT TYPE: Report

FROM:

TO:

SUBJECT: 44-28441-110 (page 220)

The original version of this document has been withdrawn. Attached is a copy of the original with portions deleted for the following reason(s):

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

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By: Searcher2 Date:

4
MO 44-1233
RAH:kzh

Wife
Children
Employment of wife

Occupation

Past occupation

KATHERINE
Three children
Works for the Dallas County
Department of Pensions and
Security
Currently co-owner of City
Pawn Shop, Selma in addition
to selling used cars
Operated A-1 Welding and
Repair Shop in Selma

VARDAMAN enjoys a good reputation in the Selma
community.

[REDACTED]
Race
Sex
In file

Address
Wife
Children
Employment of wife
Occupation

White
Male
Exact length of credit
record unknown

[REDACTED]
Two children
[REDACTED]

FOIA(b)6
FOIA(b)7 - (C)

[REDACTED]
in Selma area. Most recent inquiry on March 11, 1965, from
[REDACTED]

1
MO 44-1233
RB/lb

CREDIT INFORMATION

The following investigation was conducted by SA CARLOS L. KIRBY, JR., at Galveston, Texas:

On March 26, 1965, LILLIAN VAUGHAN, Credit Bureau of Greater Galveston, advised her files reflected that one ELMER COOK, 5804 Avenue S $\frac{1}{2}$, Galveston, was first listed in their records in April, 1940, and last checked December, 1940. He was married to MARY LEE ROBERTS and has a brother E. E. COOK. ELMER COOK was formerly employed at Texas Loan Co., 319- 25th Street, date not listed; Gray Iron Works (1940); and was assistant manager at the Fulton Loan Co., in 1942, all located at Galveston. He left Galveston, date not listed, and moved to 13 Edgewood, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He also reportedly entered the military service when he was 23 years old.

While in Galveston he had three trade accounts, all paid satisfactorily.

ARREST RECORD

On March 23, 1965, the FBI Identification Division advised that no arrest record identifiable with WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, Selma, Alabama, PD #11212, was located.

On March 30, 1965, the FBI Identification Division furnished the identification record for EDGAR BENNETT VARDAMAN under FBI #182390F, showing the following entires:

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD Wilmington, Del.	EDGAR BENNETT VARDAMAN #DU146244	appl FP 7-23-41		
USM Montgomery, Ala.	EDGAR B. VARDAMAN #025-00851	3-4-64	conspiracy- vio N.M.W. T Act	4-18-64 acquitted

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

RG: 65 Federal Bureau of Investigation

SERIES:

NND PROJECT NUMBER: 50873

FOIA CASE NUMBER: 29727

WITHDRAWAL DATE: 11/20/2008

BOX: 01284

FOLDER: 0001

TAB: 13

DOC ID: 31206786

COPIES: 31 PAGES: 21

ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

FOLDER TITLE: 44-HQ-28441 110-120 Section 4

DOCUMENT DATE: 07/09/1965 DOCUMENT TYPE: Report

FROM:

TO:

SUBJECT: 44-28441-110 (page 222)

The original version of this document has been withdrawn. Attached is a copy of the original with portions deleted for the following reason(s):

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FOIA(b)7 - (C)

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

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By: Searcher2

Date:

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MO 44-1233

FOIA(b)6

FOIA(b)7 - (C)

On March 30, 1965, the FBI Identification Division also furnished the identification record for [REDACTED] no FBI Number assigned, showing the following entires:

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Navy	[REDACTED]	11-28-45		
Dist Sec Div Oak Ridge Tenn	[REDACTED]	appl FP 9-3-46		

AT GALVESTON, TEXAS

On March 26, 1965, LOUIE RIVAUX, Identification Officer, Galveston Police Department, and Lt. LEO ADAMS, Identification Officer, Galveston County Sheriff's Office, advised SA CARLOS L. KIRBY, JR., that their files contain no reference to ELMER L. COOK.

Captain FRANK LA PORTE, JR., Identification Officer, Selma Police Department, Selma, Alabama, furnished the following arrest records of the subjects in this investigation:

WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE #69463

<u>Date</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
June 15, 1955	Imp Muffler	\$ 5.00
August 4, 1956	DWI to RD	\$104.00
July 13, 1957	DWI to RD	\$104.00
October 25, 1957	DWI	\$104.00
July 28, 1962	RD	\$104.00
September 4, 1964	DWI to RD	\$104.00
March 10, 1965	A to M	--
March 10, 1965	A to M	--
March 10, 1965	A to M	--

ELMER L. COOK #9666

May 9, 1960	A & B	Nolle Pros
May 10, 1960	A & B	\$104.00 & 60 days
December 4, 1948	VTL, Left Turn	--
December 30, 1948	A & B	\$12.50
July 26, 1949	A & B	\$17.50
December 8, 1949	Affray	\$7.50
December 10, 1950	A & B	\$102.50 & 15 days susp
May 9, 1951	DC	\$7.50
July 30, 1951	A & B	\$12.50
August 9, 1951	Dest prop of another	Nolle Pros
August 9, 1951	A & B	\$7.50
November 16, 1951	A & B	Nolle Pros
November 16, 1951	A & B	\$27.50
June 1, 1952	Affray	\$12.50
December 2, 1952	A & B	\$52.50
June 20, 1953	D.C.	\$12.50

On 3/11/65 at Selma, Alabama File # 44-1233
 by SA VICTOR B. SNIDER and
SA CHILTON B. CREASON/lr Date dictated 3/13/65

MO 44-1233

ELMER L. COOK #9666 - Continued

<u>Date</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
April 17, 1954	A & B	\$54.00 & 60 days
December 27, 1954	A & B	\$54.00
February 17, 1955	A & B	\$19.00
June 17, 1956	A & B	\$29.00
September 1, 1959	A & B	\$54.00
November 4, 1959	D.C.	\$14.00
May 9, 1960	A & B	Nolle Pros
May 10, 1960	A & B	\$104 and 30 days susp
September 23, 1961	A & B	\$54.00
July 14, 1964	D.C.	\$29.00
July 14, 1962	CCW	
February 25, 1964	A & B	\$29.00
September 3, 1964	Disch firearms City Limits	Nolle Pros
March 10, 1965	A to M	--
March 10, 1965	A to M	--
March 10, 1965	A to M	--

The following description of ELMER L. COOK was obtained from
Police Department records:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Address	407 Crestwood Drive
Date of birth	May 13, 1923
	Houston, Texas
Height	5' 10"
Complexion	Ruddy
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Weight	202 lbs.
Build	Stout
Relatives	Wife - MARY LEE COOK
	Father - EARL E. COOK
	Mother - LOLA B. COOK
Occupation	C. C. Novelty Company

R. B. KELLY #7423

<u>Date</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
January 14, 1952	Wanted Grove Hill, Alabama	Released to SO, Grove Hill, Alabama
April 29, 1955	A & B	Nolle Pros
June 6, 1957	D.C.	\$14.00
March 1, 1958	No Driver's License	\$14.00
May 25, 1961	G.L.	Waived to G. J.
March 10, 1965	A to M	--
March 10, 1965	A to M	--
March 10, 1965	A to M	--

NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE #70319

<u>Date</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
September 3, 1955	RD	Nolle Pros
August 26, 1958	DWI	Nolle Pros
November 17, 1960	Red Light	\$9.00
September 10, 1964	Speeding	\$14.00
March 10, 1965	A to M	--
March 10, 1965	A to M	--
March 10, 1965	A to M	--

The following description of NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, aka., Duck,
was obtained from Police Department records:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Residence	1315 Old Montgomery Highway
Place of birth	Hale County, Alabama
Age	30
Date of birth	October 15, 1934
Height	5' 8"
Complexion	Medium
Hair	Brown
Weight	178 lbs.

⁴
Mo 44-1233

Eyes
Build
Scars and marks
Occupation
Relatives

Hazel
Medium
None
Mechanic
Wife - DOROTHY HOGGLE
Daughters - CYNTHIA 7, WANDA 4,
KIM 4 months.
Mother - PEARL HOGGLE, Greenboro, Alabama.
Father - OSCAR HOGGLE, same address.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/18/651

Captain FRANK LA PORTE, JR., Identification Officer, Selma Police Department, Selma, Alabama, furnished the following arrest record of E. B. VARDAMAN:

Name	E. B. VARDAMAN
Race	White
Sex	Male
Address	Route 4, Box 33
Date of birth	September 20, 1908. (It is noted that when VARDAMAN was interviewed on March 16, 1965, he gave his date of birth as August 20, 1919.)
Driver's license no.	0117104

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
November 19, 1946	34409	RD	\$27.50
May 10, 1949	44593	Speeding	12.50
January 12, 1952	55669	Speeding	12.50
September 15, 1955	70440	A & B	N.P.
September 15, 1955	70448	A & B	29.00
December 20, 1964	112274	Speeding	14.00

On 3/18/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SA RAYMOND L. BECK and
SA PAUL M. CONRAD/lc Date dictated 3/18/65

1
MO 44-1233
RAH:kzh

Captain FRANK LA PORTE, Identification Officer, Selma Police Department, Selma, Alabama, advised that a review of the records of his office revealed the following information on March 17, 1965:

FLOYD GROOM has had a record with the Selma Police Department since 1930. This record reveals 16 arrests on various charges of drunk, drunk driving, speeding, false pretense, assault and battery and larceny. This file reveals that GROOM is a white male listing his address as 807 Broad Street, Selma, Alabama and working at the C & K Body Shop, Selma.

EDGAR WILTON STRIPLING has had a record with the Selma Police Department since 1946. This record reveals 11 arrests involving drunk, disorderly conduct and no drivers license. The file reveals that STRIPLING is a white male, born September 12, 1917, at Wilton, Alabama, height 5'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", build medium, brown hair, hazel eyes, weight 120 lbs. Occupation was listed in 1963 with the Silver Moon Cafe, Selma, Alabama.

BASIL SMITH, Police Department Number 423, has been arrested 66 times since 1951, almost every arrest for drunk and disorderly.

On March 18, 1965, the FBI Identification Division furnished the Identification Record for ELMER L. COOK, FBI Number 795 825E reflecting the following entries:

Contributor of Fingerprints	Name and Number	Arrested or Received	Charge	Disposition
PD Selma Ala	Elmer L. Cook #9666	5-9-60	A&B A&B	Noll Pross \$104 & 60 das
USM Montgomery Ala	Elmer Lesley Cook #025-00848	3-4-64	conspiracy -	
PD Selma Ala	Elmer L. Cook #9666/11213	3-10-65	A to M (3 chgs)	

2

MO 44-1233

RAH:kzh

On March 18, 1965, The FBI Identification Division furnished the Identification Record for R.B. KELLY, FBI Number 862 047D reflecting the following entries:

<u>Contributor of</u> <u>Fingerprints</u>	<u>Name and</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Arrested or</u> <u>Received</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
PD Selma Ala	R.B. Kelley #7423	1-14-52	wanted Grove Hill Ala	rel to Sheriff
SO Selma Ala	R.B. Kelly #15047	5-27-61	GL	
PD Selma Ala	R.B. Kelly #7423/11211	3-10-65	A to M (3 cases	

MO 44-1233

RB:mfm

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A prior FBI investigation reflects the following:

ELMER L. COOK, born May 13, 1933, at Houston, Texas, was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury, Montgomery, Alabama, on February 12, 1964, for a violation of Title 18, Section 371, U. S. Code, charging that between March 1, 1963, and September 1, 1963, he conspired with others in transporting or causing to be transported stolen motor vehicles from outside Alabama into Alabama, knowing them to have been stolen.

COOK was found not guilty in a trial by jury in U. S. District Court, Opelika, Alabama, on April 18, 1964.

The FBI Identification Division on March 15, 1965 advised that there was no prior arrest data found for NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, Selma, Alabama Police Department #11214.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/2/651

Mr. J. WILSON BAKER, Director of Public Safety, City of Selma, Alabama, furnished the attached affidavits and warrants on April 2, 1965, in which WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE, NAMON O'NEAL HOGGLE, ELMER L. COOK and R. B. KELLY are charged with the murder of JAMES REEB, issued on March 11, 1965.

On 4/2/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SA RICHARD A. HARDOCK and
SA RICHARD BUCARO/lr Date dictated 4/2/65

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MO 44-1233

INCIDENT ON MARCH 6, 1965, INVOLVING SUBJECTS
ELMER L. COOK AND WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE USING
AN OLD AUTOMOBILE TO EMIT EXHAUST SMOKE ON
DEMONSTRATORS AT DALLAS COUNTY COURT HOUSE,
SELMA, ALABAMA.

APPENDIX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/15/651

On March 6, 1965, while covering a demonstration at Dallas County Courthouse, Selma, Alabama, it was observed at approximately 2:24 PM, CST, a Rev. JOSEPH ELWANGER, Lutheran Minister from Birmingham, Alabama, led a group of approximately 65 white persons to the Dallas County Courthouse. ELWANGER was in the lead group of these people and arrived on scene at approximately 2:24 PM.

At approximately 2:25 PM, a 1954 or 1955 two tone Chevrolet, orange and white in color, bearing 1964 Alabama tag 27-6949, stopped at corner of Alabama Avenue and Lauderdale Street. It was observed that one individual, a white male who was determined to be STANLEY HOGGLE, got out of the passenger side of the car, raised the hood and began pouring some type of liquid into the carburetor. The driver of the car ELMER COOK alternately raced the motor and smoke began pouring out from under the car in large clouds, drifting across Alabama Avenue to a large croud of Negroes who were almost obscured by the smoke. JACK DEASON, a local car salesman, was observed sitting in the back seat of the car smoking a cigar. This car continued this activity of belching out smoke for a space of 5 to 10 minutes. Thereafter J. WILSON BAKER, Public Safety Director, City of Selma, instructed these individuals to immediately leave the area. HOGGLE closed the hood of the car, got into the front seat beside the driver, ELMER COOK, and the car left the scene.

On 3/6/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233by SA ROBERT L. FRYE/lr Date dictated 3/13/65

44-1233

JAS:kg

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Mr. GLYNN HENDERSON, Official Court Reporter, United States District Court, Montgomery, Alabama, provided an excerpt transcript containing the testimony of ASBURY MIDDLEBROOKS, witness in Civil Action No. 2181-N, which was held in United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama, Northern Division, before the Honorable Frank M. Johnson, Jr., Judge, at Montgomery, Alabama, March 11, 12, 13, 15 and 16, 1965. This matter was styled Hosea Williams, John Lewis and Amelia Boynton, on behalf of themselves and others similarly situated, Plaintiffs, United States of America, Plaintiff-Intervenor, vs Honorable George C. Wallace, as Governor of the State of Alabama; Al Lingo, as Director of Public Safety for the State of Alabama; and James G. Clark, as Sheriff of Dallas County, Alabama, Defendants.

On page nine in the excerpt from the testimony of ASHBURY MIDDLEBROOKS, interrogation is undertaken concerning the meeting in the vicinity of the Dallas County Court House in Selma, Alabama, on Saturday, March 6, 1965. In connection with this demonstration MIDDLEBROOKS took pictures of the crowd and is questioned concerning his observations, as well as the photographs which are being introduced into evidence on the behalf of his activities as photographer for the Sheriff's Department of Dallas County.

On Page twelve MIDDLEBROOKS is questioned concerning the appearance of an automobile which stopped at the scene of the demonstration near the court house and proceeded to emit a large quantity of exhaust smoke. The interrogation concerning this matter is as follows:

Q On this bottom picture, it shows an automobile driving up with smoke coming out of the back of it?

A Right.

Q Is there anything -- do you know who was driving this automobile?

A I do.

Q And who was this person?

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JAS:kg

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A Elmer Cook.

Q Elmer Cook?

A Right.

Q Is he the person that was subsequently arrested and charged with the fatal beating of Reverend Reeb?

A He is.

Q And what did they do, if anything, when they came up there to the Dallas County Court House?

A What did they do to the car?

Q (Nodded to indicate affirmative reply)

A This car pulled up on the corner and stopped, and Stanley Hoggle, which you see in the rear here, raised the hood on the automobile and poured some Casite in the carburetor, causing a -- a big smoke screen.

Q All right. Now, Deputy Middlebrooks, was it at any time -- I withdraw that. Did the Dallas County Sheriff's Department move any of these white crowds and Negro crowds away from the Dallas County Court House?

A They did.

Q And did you assist in this?

A I did not.

Q Do you know the deputy who did this?

A I do.

Q And what was his name?

A Captain George Stoves and Chief Deputy Crocker.

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JAS:kg

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Q And were they assisted by any City policemen?

A I do not recall.

Q All right, and on this particular day, were -- were there any fights that broke out among the crowd?

A I heard of it; I did not see it.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/2/651

Deputy ASBURY MIDDLEBROOKS was contacted at the Dallas County Sheriff's Office, Selma, Alabama, regarding photographs he made on March 6, 1965, regarding an old automobile throwing smoke at the Dallas County Courthouse.

Mr. MIDDLEBROOKS stated that he did make at least two photographs of STANLEY HOGGLE standing by a smoking car on March 6, 1965, near the Dallas County Courthouse sometime after lunch, time not recalled.

MIDDLEBROOKS stated that he could not furnish copies of the photographs or furnish anyother information about the incident as he had been instructed by his attorney HENRY PITTS not to. He declined even to point out to Agents the location of the automobile at the time he photographed it, stating that he could say no more about the incident without having his attorney, Mr. PITTS, present.

On 4/2/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SA RICHARD A. HARDOCK and
SA RICHARD EUCARO/lr Date dictated 4/2/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/3/651

JACK J. DEASON, Route 5, Box 298, New Orrville Road, was interviewed at his place of employment, the Reliable Oldsmobile Company, 16 Lawrence Street, and furnished the following information:

At the outset of the interview, DEASON was advised that the interviewing agents desired to talk to him concerning his activities on March 6, 1965, and he was specifically asked if he was in Selma, Alabama, on that date. DEASON advised, after consulting his calendar, that he was in Selma, Alabama, on March 6, 1965.

DEASON was then asked if he was in the vicinity of Dallas County Court House during demonstration by white ministers on March 6, 1965. After stating that he had been in the vicinity of the Dallas County Court House on that date, he then advised that he would rather discuss this matter the following day due to the fact he might get himself involved in some manner by answering questions at this time. He advised that he would answer no further questions at this time but would discuss the matter the next day. Tentative arrangements were made with DEASON to interview him at the FBI Resident Agency, Selma, Alabama, April 3, 1965.

On 4/2/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233
by SA PAUL M. CONRAD and
SA RAYMOND L. BECK/lr Date dictated 4/3/65

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MO 44-1233
RLB/ljs:jsw

On April 2, 1965, SA ROBERT L. FRYE received a telephone call from JACK J. DEASON who stated he had made arrangements with two Agents of the FBI Office to be interviewed by them on April 3, 1965. He stated he had since consulted with his attorney JOSEPH PILCHER and on his advice, would refuse to talk to FBI Agents as had been previously arranged.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/5/65

JACK J. DEASON was interviewed at his place of employment, the Reliable Oldsmobile Company, 16 Lawrence Street, and furnished the following information:

DEASON was advised of the nature of the investigation concerning his presence in the vicinity of Dallas County Court House March 6, 1965, at the time of the demonstration by the white ministers on that date. His attention was called to the incident involving an old model car at the scene which was throwing off a dense cloud of smoke and information that ELMER COOK was in the driver's seat of this car, WILLIAM STANLEY HOGGLE was at the front of the car pouring a liquid into the motor, and he, DEASON, was observed to be in the back seat of that car.

At this time DEASON referred to his phone call the previous day to Agent BOB FRYE at the Selma FBI Office, in which he advised he did not desire to be interviewed concerning this matter on advice of his attorney, JOSEPH PILCHER.

DEASON did, however, state he was not involved in the above incident and did not ride to the scene of the demonstration in an old car which may have been used in creating a dense cloud of smoke. He refused to answer whether he was in the back seat of that old car at the scene.

At this point DEASON stated he would refuse to discuss the matter further, and the interview was terminated.

On 4/3/65 at Selma, Alabama File # Mobile 44-1233
by SA RAYMOND L. BECK and
SA PAUL M. CONRAD :bah Date dictated 4/3/65

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/7/651

Mrs. MABEL BAILEY, Clerk, Auto License Department, Dallas County Courthouse, Selma, Alabama, made available the registration card for 1965 Alabama license number 27-6949, which shows that on November 2, 1964, this license number was issued to I. J. MALONE, 1408 Mabry Street, Selma, Alabama, for 1954 Chevrolet 4-door, Serial Number 0582618F541.

On 4/2/65 at Selma, Alabama File # MO 44-1233

by SA RICK HARDOCK and
SA RICHARD BUCARO/lr Date dictated 4/7/65

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/7/651

I. J. MALONE, 1408 Mabry Street, Selma, Alabama, advised that he owned a 1954 Chevrolet 4-door sedan, white over orange in color, which he traded in to Mr. COOK of the C & C Motor Company on Water Street, Selma, just before Christmas, 1964. He stated that as he recalls the license number of this car was 27-6949. He said he traded this car in for a 1956 Chevrolet in which the motor later burned up and he took it back to COOK and got a 1955 Mercury to replace it which he still has.

MALONE said he has seen the 1954 Chevrolet around Selma within the past month, but does not know who the present owner is.

On 4/6/65 at Selma, Alabama File # NO 44-1233

by SA RICK HARDOCK and
SA RICHARD BUCARO/ls Date dictated 4/7/65

MO 44-1233

The information in this memorandum is furnished solely for the official use of the persons and authorities to whom it is furnished for the prosecution of the subjects who have been identified in the investigation of the murder of the Rev. JAMES J. REEB.

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